





New beginnings

For most of us, when we think of the Wild West, we imagine **gunslinging cowboys**, dusty prairies and swinging saloon bar doors – not to mention rolling tumbleweed. But was the **American West** really **all that wild**? It's a question explored in our cover feature from page 52.

From the Wild West to Bletchley Park, we'll also be telling the stories of the remarkable women whose essential work helped **break the Enigma Code** in World War II (*p63*), as well as exploring the terrors of the French Revolution – through **seven severed heads**! (*p28*). This month is also the 50th anniversary of New York's Stonewall riots – one of the most significant global **landmarks in the fight for gay rights**. Read the full story from page 37.

This issue is my first as editor. After eight years on *Revealed*'s sister publication, *BBC History Magazine*, I'm thrilled to be taking the reins on *BBC History Revealed*. You may also have noticed that the magazine has joined the wider family of BBC history titles. I'm delighted to have the opportunity to work with the BBC and to continue to bring readers the same breadth of content seen over the past 70 issues.

Have a great month!

Charlotte Hodgman Editor



Don't miss our August issue, on sale 11 July

CONTRIBUTORS



Tessa
Dunlop
Television
presenter
and historian

Tessa takes us through
the secret stories of the
codebreaking women at
Bletchley. See page 63.



Worsley
Curator and
author Lucy
explains why

Florence Nightingale's eccentricities appeal, and why her former teacher is her hero. See page 17.



Jon Savage Writer and music journalist Jon

uncovers how a police raid in Manhattan sparked the gay rights movement in the US. See page 37.

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The length, in days, from the Ottomans arriving, to the end of the Great Siege of Malta in 1565. The Christian victory put a temporary halt to Turkish expansion. See page 68. 18,000

The number of Enigma messages being harvested per day at Bletchley Park in 1944. The messages were received by a force of 1,676 Wrens. See page 63. 21

The age of outlaw Billy the Kid when he was killed during a shootout with Sheriff Pat Garrett in 1881. By the time of his death, the Kid was reputed to have killed eight men. See page 52.

ON THE COVER



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Have Your Say, *BBC History Revealed*, Immediate Media, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN



Subscription enquiries:

Phone: 03330 162 116 Email: historyrevealed@buysubscriptions.com Post: History Revealed, PO Box 3320, 3 Queensbridge, Northampton, NN4 7BF Editorial enquiries: 0117 314 7354



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▲ The invention that made industrial history

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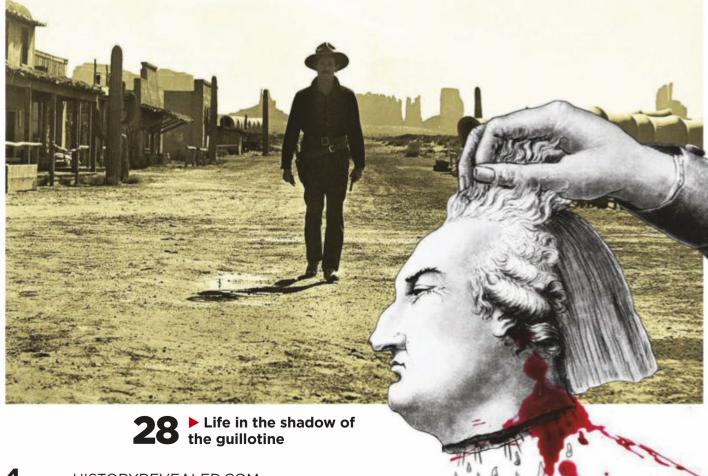


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Cracking the Enigma Code was the work of many brilliant minds... and a crack team of female operatives.....p63

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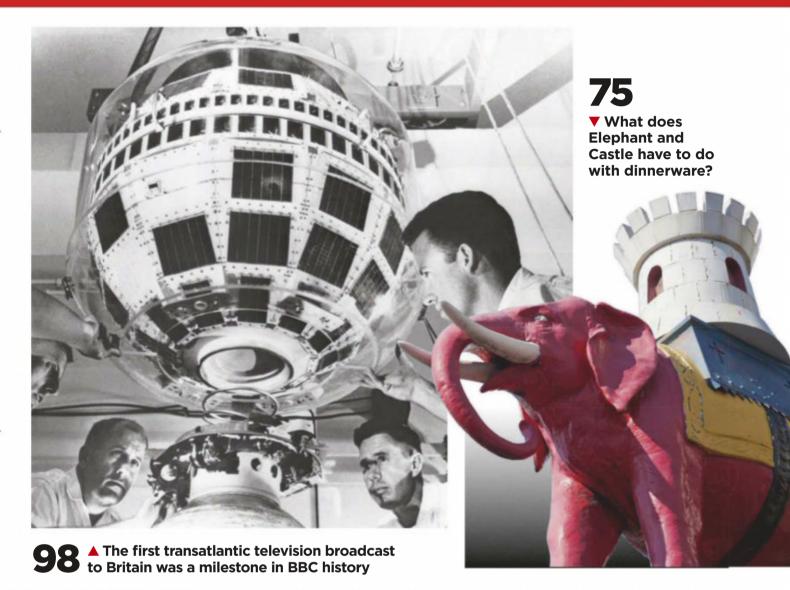
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The uprising at Stonewall thrust gay rights into the spotlight



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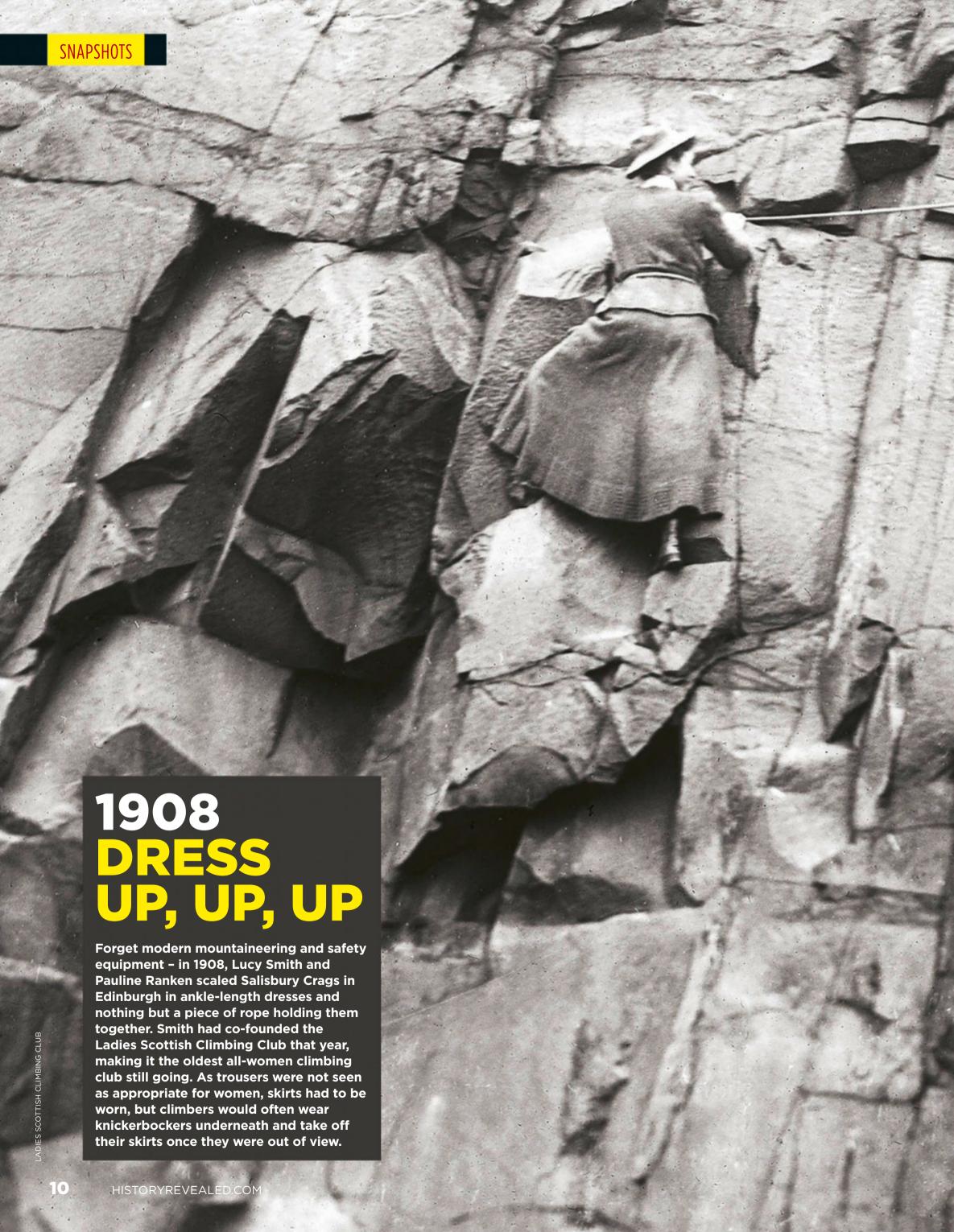
1918 WALL STREET BASH

Two of the biggest stars in Hollywood -**Charlie Chaplin and Douglas Fairbanks** - put on an impressive gymnastics display to entertain thousands outside what is now Federal Hall on Wall Street, New York, with a statue of George Washing looming behind them. Their performance is part of a rally to promote war bonds. Uptake in the US had been slow following the US's entry into World War I in April 1917, with many citizens unfamiliar with how bonds worked, so celebrities were recruited to champion them as a patriotic way of aiding the war effort. Chaplin faced criticism in the media for not going to fight, but that didn't stop him being a firm favourite with the troops.











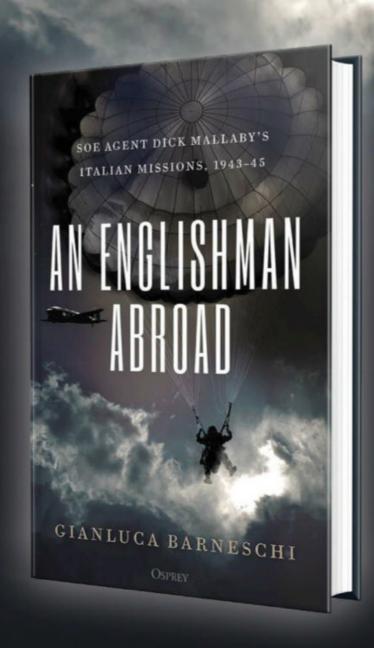
AN ENGLISHMAN ABROAD

GIANLUCA BARNESCHI

'He possessed the kind of courage known as the cold, two o'clock in the morning type.'

JOHN MCCAFFERY, HEAD OF SOE ITALIAN SECTION

The incredible true story of Dick Mallaby, the first British agent to be inserted into Italy during World War II, whose courage and quick thinking drew him into the heart of some of the most important events in Italian history: the Italian armistice and escape of the king, and the first major German surrender of the war.



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REWIND

Giving you a fresh perspective on the events and findings from history

HISTORY IN THE NEWS



JAPANESE BEACHES STILL LITTERED WITH HIROSHIMA DEBRIS

Remnants from the WWII atomic bombing are still being found

lass-like particles that litter beaches near Hiroshima in Japan have been identified as debris caused by the 1945 atomic bomb.

Scientists believe that the debris, found on beaches four miles from Hiroshima, was created by the force of the atomic blast and ejected into the atmosphere. These particles, which were initially found in 2015, have been analysed and have been found to contain steel, iron and other materials.

The atomic bomb, known as Little Boy, was dropped by the US on 6 August 1945 in a bid to defeat Japan at the end of World War II.

Hiroshima was almost completely destroyed. More than 80,000 people were killed instantly, and many more would die due to radiation exposure. A second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki three days later, and on 15 August Japan announced its surrender.

Speaking to *BBC History* Revealed, Professor Hans-Rudolf Wenk from the University of California, Berkeley, who analysed the particles, said:

"The reaction to our paper has been quite extraordinary. But a most amazing impression from our studies has not been so much that the extraordinary particles survived, but that nobody has discovered them for 70 years. From a purely scientific perspective it was fascinating to unravel the conditions at which these particles formed."

The devastating legacy of the bombing is still felt across Hiroshima – the city's Peace Memorial has been left in ruins as a reminder.







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YESTERDAY'S PAPERS

The note heard around the worldp18



THIS MONTH IN... 1935

Former slave Cudjo Lewis diesp20



TIME CAPSULE: 1769



ANGLO-SAXON BURIAL MYSTERY SOLVED?

IN THE NEWS

Experts believe they now know who was laid to rest at the Essex Dark Age site

n Anglo-Saxon burial unearthed in Essex in 2003 has been hailed as being as significant for Britain as the 1922 discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb was for Egypt.

Archaeologists initially thought that the burial in Prittlewell, Southend-on-Sea, was of the Anglo-Saxon King Saebert – the first East Saxon king to convert to Christianity. But carbon dating suggests the burial dates to cAD 580, many years before Saebert's death. The most likely suggestion is that it actually belongs to Saebert's younger brother, Seaxa.

The burial, uncovered during roadworks, is believed to be the oldest Christian Anglo-Saxon royal burial in Britain. It is so well-preserved, with the chamber intact, that archaeologists have named it one of the most important finds in Britain, with the riches interred within earning its occupant the nickname of 'Prince of Prittlewell'.

The timber chamber contained a lyre and gold coins, as well as what's believed to be **Grave goods** included this the only surviving example of a painted Anglogold belt buckle Saxon wooden box in Britain. Gold-foil crosses (above) and the were also found, which are thought to have ornate remains been placed over the deceased's eyes – signalling of a drinking bottle (right) a Christian burial. Some of these artefacts are

SIX OF THE BEST... **UNEARTHED TREASURES**

Central Museum.

The archaeological finds that continue to reverberate through the years

now on permanent display in Southend



MACHU PICCHU, PERU

Abandoned in the mid-15th century, this Inca citadel was rediscovered in 1911, when explorer Hiram Bingham stumbled across it while searching for another Inca city.



SUTTON HOO, **ENGLAND**

The discovery of an Anglo-Saxon ship burial shone light on a historical period previously shrouded in mystery. A wealth of artefacts were found, like the Sutton Hoo helmet (above).



TUTANKHAMUN, **EGYPT**

Found by Howard Carter in 1922, the discovery of the young pharaoh's tomb caused a resurgence in Egyptology, as well as creating the legend of the mummy's curse.



TERRACOTTA ARMY, KNOSSOS, 4 CHINA

Local farmers discovered these sculptures - created to guard China's First Emperor, Qin Shi Huang. Thousands of life-sized warriors were hidden in the underground tomb.



CRETE

Capital of the legendary king Minos, this city was once home to a sophisticated Bronze Age civilisation – the Minoans – and is considered one of Europe's oldest cities.



Research on the 'Prince of Prittlewell' has been

ongoing since 2003

O ITALY

In AD 79, Mount Vesuvius erupted, covering Pompeii in volcanic debris and preserving it in the exact moment of the disaster - giving a unique look into the Ancient Roman world. A look at everyday objects from the past

In 1075 Emma
De Gauder
held this
castle against
the king The plaques celebrate Norwich's 'rebel' women

WHO'S THE FAIREST OF THEM ALL?

'irrors are probably not an object you'd associate with the Celts, but they were known for their exquisite craftmanship – making jewellery and weapons out of silver, gold and bronze. Mirrors have been found in British Iron Age burials dating between 100 BC and AD 100. This bronze example was found in a burial in Great Chesterford, Essex, and is decorated

front was polished to enable the owner to see their reflection and it had a handle. IN THE NEWS

WOMEN OF NORWICH REMEMBERED

A local theatre group has been doing some dedicating of their own

sterious unofficial blue plaques have been appearing on buildings in Norwich to commemorate inspirational women from the city's past.

The Common Lot theatre group - the team behind the handmade plaques were inspired to create them after discovering that only 25 out of the 300 official blue plaques in the city were dedicated to women.

One of the women featured on an unofficial plaque is Dorothy Jewson, one of the first women to be elected as a Labour MP.

Alison Treacy, from The Common Lot, commented: "As our blue plaques art project commemorating radical Norfolk women gathers support, we would like to see them made permanent.

"Too often history forgets the female. From suffragettes to scientists they [the handmade plaques] represent just some of the many stories that could be told of the Norfolk women who stood firm. In a city with a rich radical tradition, we owe it to our past, and Norwich women of the future, to do so."



HISTORY IN COLOUR

Colourised photographs that bring the past to life





SWAN UPPING ON THE THAMES, c1885

With their long poles and feathered hats, these Swan Uppers are ready for the peculiar tradition of catching, counting and checking the swan population of the River Thames.

Swan Upping is a royal affair as the British Crown claims the right to all unmarked mute swans in open water. While the annual event was originally used to divide ownership of the swans between the Crown and landowners, today it enables experts to check the health of the birds.

See more colourised pictures by Marina Amaral @marinamaral2

YOUR HISTORY

Lucy Worsley

The chief curator at Historic Royal Palaces and regular BBC presenter wants to completely overhaul the Tudor dynasty and admires anyone called a 'difficult woman'







Lucy Worsley wrote the foreword for the new *Women: Our History* (DK)

Encounters with Victoria, Lucy's recent series on Queen Victoria is available on BBC Radio 4 www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0004sd5

If you could turn back the clock, which single event in history would you want to change?

I would go back to 28 June 1491, to the Tudor royal palace by the Thames at Greenwich. The atmosphere would have been tense – Elizabeth of York, wife of Henry VII, was in labour. I would change the gender of the baby born that day to find out what it would have been like if Henry VIII had been a girl. His sister Margaret clearly had something of her more-famous brother's character and capacity. I'd love to know how the 16th century would have unfolded in Britain under Queen Margaret I instead of King Henry VIII. Perhaps with less head-chopping and religious violence?

If you could meet any figure from history, who would it be?

Florence Nightingale. I'm intrigued by the enormous swings her reputation has undergone: from the selfless

> heroine she was believed to be by the Victorian press, to the uptight, cerebral and much more challenging figure uncovered by more recent historians. Her talent clearly lay not in compassion, but in logic, analysis and administration. I suspect she might eat me for breakfast,

but I do revel in her eccentricities. I admire anyone who gets labelled by history as a 'difficult woman'.

If you could visit any historical landmark in the world tomorrow, where would you go?

I am sorry to say that when I was in Russia making a series for BBC Four, I failed to visit the Treasury of the Kremlin to see the fabled crown jewels of the Romanovs. We were covering the whole history of the dynasty, right up to its shocking end in the 1918 revolution, but the Kremlin's filming fees were too high for us to be able to afford to see their sparkly treasures! So I would be off there at the drop of a tiara.

Who is your unsung history hero?

My own history teacher, Mr King. He and I spent a lot of time with the Nazis during my history A-level, a time in my life when I decided I wanted to be a historian. He recently surprised me by coming to a public talk I was giving, and when I mentioned on social media that I'd seen him, what seemed liked hundreds of his former pupils got in touch to say how he'd inspired them too. The fact remains, though, that I could never call him John – he'll always be Mr King to me.



"I'd love to know what it would have been like if Henry VIII was a girl"

THOY 4am and the

FORWARD WITH BRITAIN

cash keeps rolling in

July 14, 1985

Millions watch

caring



* PAUL McCARTNEY raises his fist in triumph to fans at Live Aid's magnificent music marathon at Wembley Stadium yesterday. It was a salute to the success of a unique effort to aid the starving children of famine ravaged Ethiopia.

* FIFTY pop supergroups across the world pooled their talents in a TV extravaganza beamed by satellite to 160 countries and watched by an audience of 1.5 billion people. The Spectacular raised at least £38 million— and early today phones were still jammed with offers of donations.

*IT was Rocks Night of Glory—the night giants of pop got together, ignoring petty rivalries that so often divide them, to sing songs of hope for mankind. Princess Diana was there and added even more sparkle to the dazzling occasion.

* SHE tapped her feet to the sounds of Boomtown Rats star Bob Geldof-Live Aid's champion—Status Quo, Style Council and Ultravox. They and the other megastars brought in the cash, millions that mean life or Out of this world—Pages 4 & 5 death for millions. Princess of Pop-Centre Pages



Wembley wonders-Di and Charles yesterday.

Picture: GEOFF GARRATT

Paul's sign of triumph.

Picture: ALAN OLLEY

President winning fight for life Full story

YESTERDAY'S PAPERS

Another timeless front page from the archives

LIVE AID ROCKS THE WORLD

Musicians unite to raise money for Ethiopia, and create a legendary concert in the process

t's 12 noon in London, 7am in Philadelphia, and around the world it's time for Live Aid!" With these words, the British broadcaster Richard Skinner opened Live Aid on 13 July 1985.

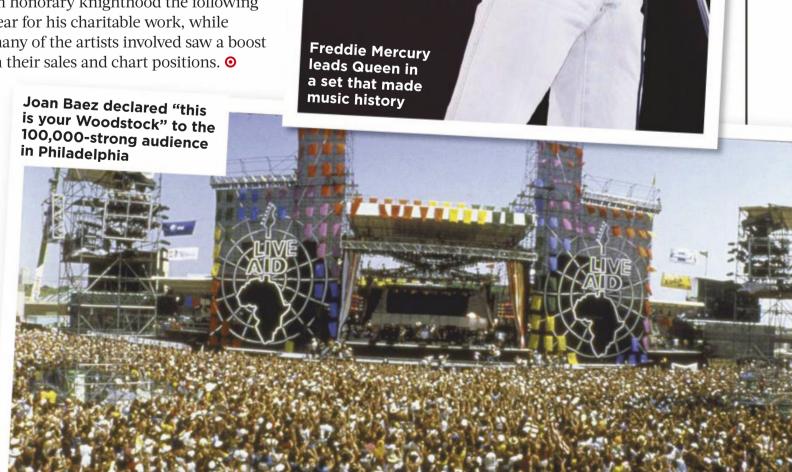
The dream of the benefit concert was to raise money for victims of famine in Ethiopia. Lasting from 1983 to 1985, it claimed the lives of 1.2 million people and displaced double that number within the country. A BBC news report in October 1984 by Michael Buerk, who described the situation in Ethiopia as a "biblical famine", inspired musician Bob Geldof to organise and release charity single Do They Know It's Christmas? Following its immense success, Geldof and fellow music star Midge Ure wanted to do more. The idea of putting on a televised, fundraising concert featuring the biggest stars was conceived.

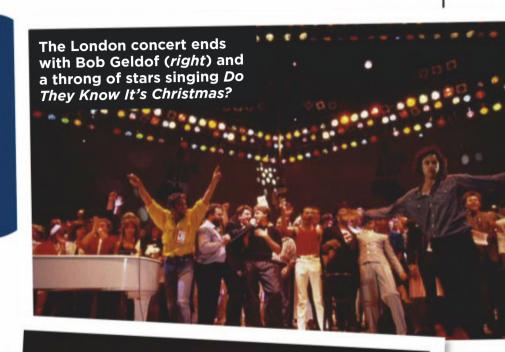
In fact, two concerts were held simultaneously at Wembley Stadium in London and John F Kennedy Stadium in Philadelphia. More than 50 artists took part, including David Bowie, Led Zeppelin, The Who, Elton John, Madonna, Status Quo, Paul McCartney and U2. Phil Collins flew by Concorde so he could perform at both venues when stateside, he reportedly bumped into Cher and persuaded her to join in with the finale. A number of other countries also got in on the act with their own concerts - including in Australia, Yugoslavia and Japan. Live Aid was one of the largest TV spectacles of all time with a global audience of 1.9 billion people.

The 16-hour event, in front of more than 170,000 inside the venues, has gone down in music history. Queen's 21-minute performance at Wembley has topped polls for the greatest rock performance in history, becoming so iconic that recent biopic *Bohemian Rhapsody* recreates the set almost in its entirety. At one point, frontman Freddie Mercury performed a call-and-response a capella section with the crowd, holding a note that became known as the "note heard round the world".

Geldof, however, wasn't satisfied with how much was being raised. In a now infamous interview, he took to the broadcast box and caused controversy by swearing as he implored viewers to donate more money. Videos were also shown exposing the desperate conditions faced in Ethiopia.

Both had the anticipated effect and donations soared. More than £150 million was raised overall and the popularity of Live Aid encouraged several nations to make surplus grain available, helping to end Ethiopia's immediate hunger crisis. Geldof received an honorary knighthood the following year for his charitable work, while many of the artists involved saw a boost in their sales and chart positions. •





THIS MONTH IN... 1935

Anniversaries that have made history

DEATH OF CUDJO LEWIS

The last survivors of the Atlantic slave trade lived well into the 20th century

n July 1935 – 75 years after he was captured, transported and sold into slavery – Cudjo Lewis passed away in Mobile, Alabama. Until April 2019, he was thought to have been the last person alive who had been transported across the Atlantic from Africa. His story served to illustrate throughout the 20th century that the horrors of slavery in the US were not a historic shame, but a still-present, gaping wound.

Cudjo Lewis was the name given to him by his owners as they struggled to pronounce his real name, Oluale Kossula. Born c1840-41 in the Banté region of modern-day Benin, he was around 20 when warriors of the Kingdom of Dahomey attacked his village. More than 100 people were kidnapped from their homes and sold to slavers. Those not taken were killed. Naked and chained, the captives were forced onto the American ship *Clotilda*. Slavery was legal in the US, but the importation of slaves had been abolished five decades earlier – yet ships still smuggled in human cargo.

The Middle Passage, the dreaded journey across the Atlantic, could take as long as 90 days, during which the slaves were fed sparingly and given foul water twice a day. Once the *Clotilda* had arrived, it was scuttled and burned to hide the evidence, and Timothy Meaher, the Mobile businessman who built it, kept Kossula and around 30 other men and women.

For five years, Lewis, as he became known, was a slave for the Timothy's brother, James. All the while the American Civil War raged and the end of slavery neared. It was a few days after General Robert E Lee surrendered in April 1865 that Lewis learned his bondage was over, when a group of Union soldiers passed by and told a group of slaves working on a boat that they were free.

Initially, Lewis joined a group of freed slaves who aimed to raise money to return to Africa, but when they realised they would not receive reparations they saved up to buy land near Mobile. There, they founded an independent community: Africatown.

Lewis married Abile, who had also been brought over on *Clotilda*, and had six children – although he would outlive them all. He also became a spokesperson for the residents of Africatown, being visited by artists and writers, most notably Zora Neale Hurston. Her interviews with him in the 1920s, when he was in his eighties, formed the basis of

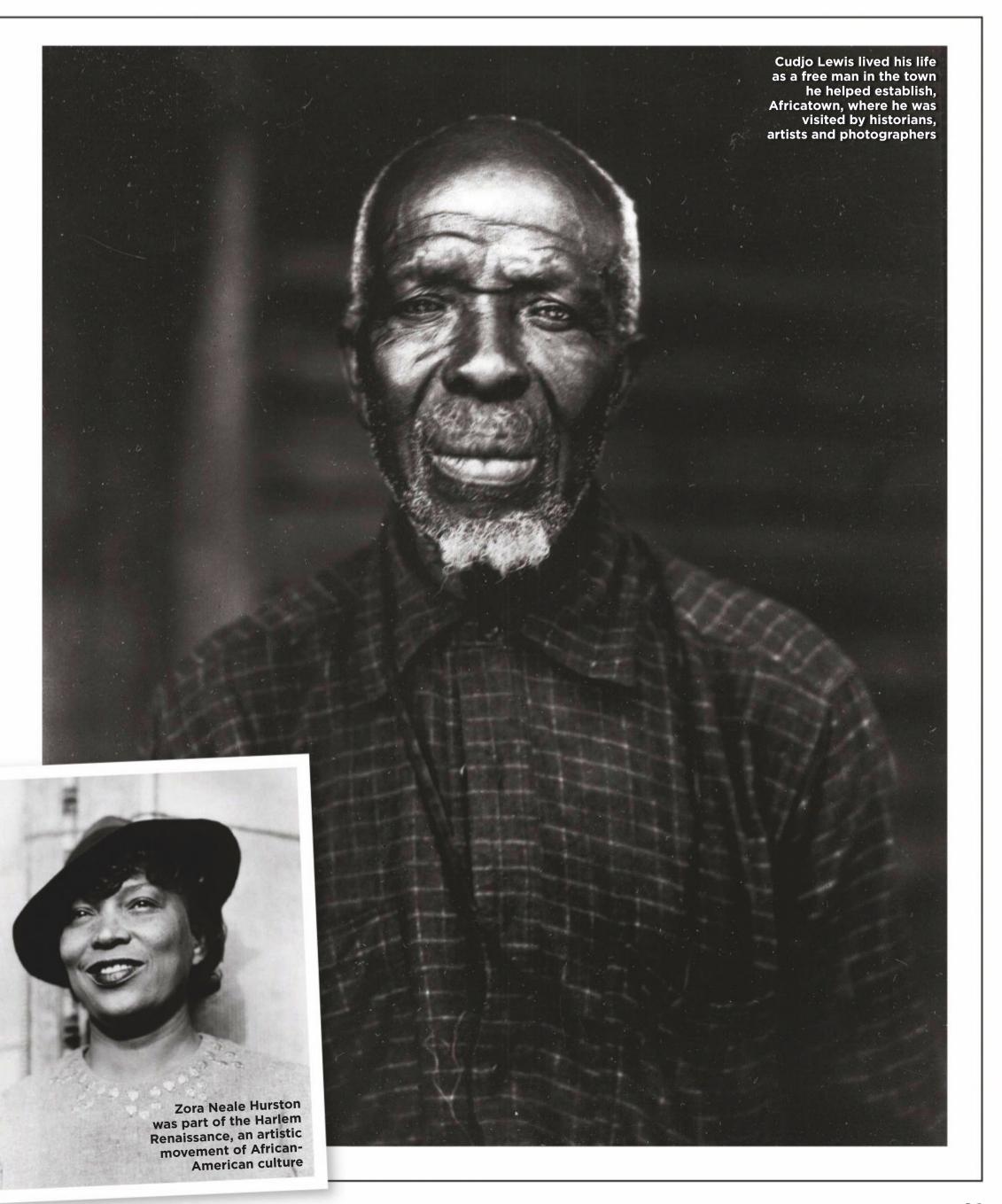
her book *Barracoon: The Story of the Last Black Cargo*. When Lewis died in 1935, he was buried in the Plateau cemetery in Africatown.

Although Hurston's work had to wait until 2018 to be published, Lewis' reputation as the last survivor of the Atlantic slave trade was established. That changed in April 2019. Researchers uncovered that a woman named Redoshi died two years after Lewis. She had been sold to a planter in Dallas County, Alabama, and given the name Sally Smith. •

"Now we are free, without country, land or home"

Cudjo Lewis, from an interview with Zora Neale Hurston





Snapshots of the world from one year in the past

engine – that had been in use since 1712 – the Scottish engineer (*right*) noticed the amount of steam being wasted. He developed added a separate condensing

efficiency and enabled it to use less fuel. Watt's engines could be used anywhere, from factories to mines, and once he was in partnership with manufacturer Matthew Boulton they soon were everywhere.

Watt's contribution became one of the driving forces behind the Industrial Revolution, and his legacy was remembered in the unit of power named after him.

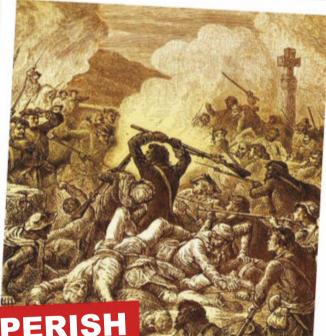
chamber, which vastly improved the engine's

THE FIRST EUROPEANS REACH SAN FRANCISCO BAY

After climbing to the summit of what is now Sweeney Ridge in November 1769, the members of the Portolá expedition became the first Europeans to look upon San Francisco Bay. In reaching the natural harbour, they had claimed the area for Spain. King Charles III had ordered the expedition, led by soldier Gaspar de Portolá, as he was concerned the land could be pinched by England or Russia. Months of exploration led to the first permanent European settlement on the Pacific coast – El Presidio Reál de San Diego – on 14 May. Then came the significant discovery of the bay, of which expedition member Friar Crespi said: "Not only all the navy of our Most Catholic Majesty but those of all Europe could take shelter in it."

FRANCE TAKES CONTROL IN CORSICA

The 14-year Corsican Republic effectively fell when French forces won a decisive battle on 8-9 May 1769, and annexed the Mediterranean island. When Pasquale Paoli had founded the republic, it was at the expense of Genoa, but in 1768, the Genoese relinquished their remaining rights to France and an invasion quickly followed. The battle took place at the bridge of Ponte Novu and was a crushing defeat for the Corsicans. Just three months later, one of the island's most famous sons was born, one who would go on to play a major role in France's history: Napoleon Bonaparte.



MILLIONS PERISH WHEN FAMINE RAVAGES BENGAL

Between 1769 and 1773, Bengal – a region now divided between India and Bangladesh – suffered a devastating famine, during which up to 10 million people – a third of the population – starved to death. Bengal was under the control of the British East India Company, which dramatically increased land taxes time and time again. A drought ruined the harvest for locals still recovering from war, and crops were destroyed to make space for cultivating the opium poppy, which was being sold to China. Many farms had to be abandoned and little support was given to the starving population.

ALSO IN 1769...

UNKNOWN

Alexander Gordon opens a distillery in Southwark, London, to make a quality gin. Gordon's becomes a hugely popular London dry, before relocating to Fife, Scotland.

3 JUNE

The Transit of Venus

- where Venus passes
directly between the Sun
and Earth - is witnessed
across the world as well
as by George III in his
new observatory at Kew.

> 18 AUGUST

Lightning strikes the Bastion of San Nazaro in Brescia, Italy, which was being used to store gunpowder. It causes a giant explosion, which is said to have killed as many as 3,000 people.

6-9 SEPTEMBER

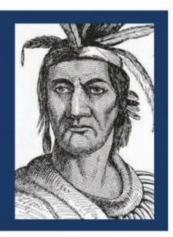
Famous actor David Garrick holds a Shakespeare Jubilee in Stratford-upon-Avon, cementing the Bard's growing reputation and the importance of the town.

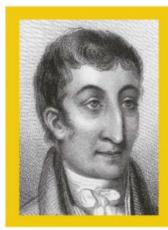
9 OCTOBER

Captain Cook lands in New Zealand. The first encounters with the Maori end with shots being fired and several locals dying.

DIED: 20 APRIL PONTIAC

The Ottawa chief survived a war against Britain, which bears his name, only to die after being stabbed by a Native American assassin. Pontiac's War (1763-66) was an uprising of many Native American tribes, in an attempt to drive the British out of their lands. Pontiac agreed to a peace treaty in 1766.





BORN: 1769 JOHN BELLINGHAM

Little is known of Bellingham's early life, though he may have been born in St Neots, Cambridgeshire. On 11 May 1812, he became notorious for his assassination of Spencer Perceval, the only British Prime Minister to have been murdered. Bellingham showed no remorse for his crime and was hanged a week later.

GRAPHIC HISTORY

COMMUNISM

A left-wing revolution began in Russia and changed the course of the 20th century

hroughout the 20th century, left-wing revolutionaries took the political and economic theory of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels and made it flesh, overthrowing heads of state and installing Communist governments in their place. In practice, however, the idea of utopia as espoused by the 19th-century writings of those two German thinkers, didn't necessarily materialise in the real world. Quite often, it was far from being a case of power to the people.

WHAT DOES COMMUNISM MEAN?

A political and economic system that favours collectivism over individualism and seeks to eliminate class barriers. Property and the means of production are publicly owned and resources are distributed to individuals based on need.

DESIGN OF AN ICON

In 1917, the year of the Russian Revolution, a competition was held to create a new Soviet emblem. Moscow artist Yevgeny Kamzolkin was the winner. His design of a hammer and sickle represented industrial and agrarian workers. They had first been paired together on Chilean currency in 1895.

1917

The October Revolution in Russia leads to the creation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the world's first Communist regime.

1947

US President Harry
Truman announces the
Truman Doctrine, a
commitment to limit the
spread of Communism
and Soviet expansion
around the world. It is
seen as the moment that
the Cold War starts.

1949

The Chinese
Communist Revolution
is complete, ending
with the proclamation
of the People's
Republic of China.
"The Chinese people
have stood up," says
the country's new
leader, Mao Tse-tung.



1900 1910

1920

1930

1940

1950

1960

COMMUNISM IN THE USSR (1917-91)

COLD WAR (1947-91)

KOREAN WAR (1950-53)

COMMUNISM IN CHINA (1949-DDESENT)

VIETNAM WAR (1955-75)





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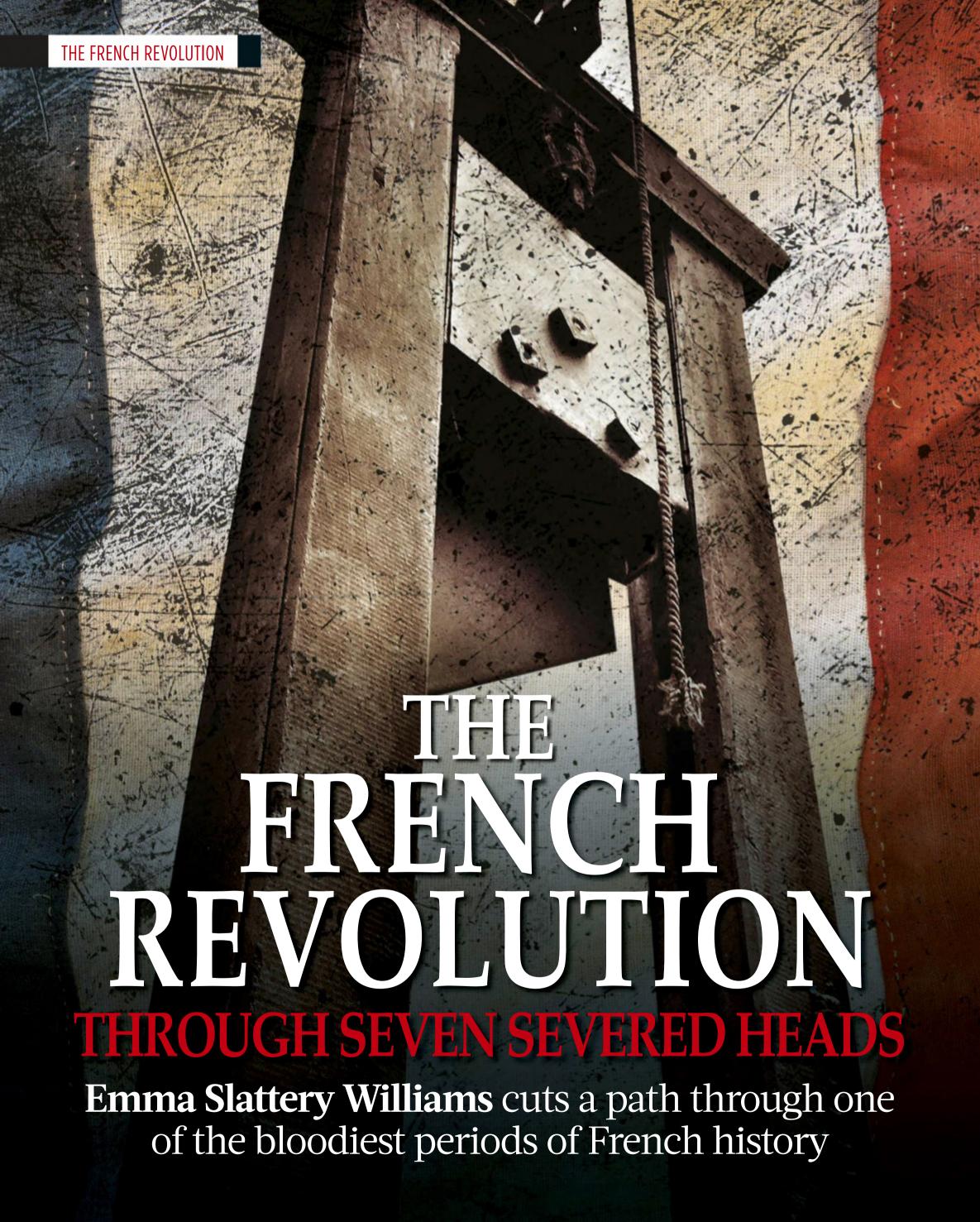
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hen we think of the French
Revolution, we often think of the
rise of Napoleon and flag-waving
at the barricades as popularised
in Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables*.

By its end, the monarchy had fallen, the old political
and social system – known as the 'Ancien Régime' – had
ended, and an overzealous use of the guillotine had
spread fear across the country.

The Revolution began in 1789. Though most of the working classes were poor and hungry, the aristocracy remained rich and well-fed in their palaces. These were the hallmarks of a feudal system that meant little had changed since the Middle Ages. The King wielded absolute power, having stripped political roles from the nobility, and the majority of French citizens had little hope of change.

The country had been bankrupted by war and the bourgeoisie (the upper and middle-classes) had limited political power. Educated citizens, influenced by the writers of the Enlightenment, became jaded with the absolutist regime that had been in place for centuries. They decided it was time for change. Different factions rose up within the various revolutionary governments, all with their own approaches and definitions of revolution.

The mob's storming of the Bastille on 14 July 1789 signalled that a revolution had begun. Though mainly a symbolic attack – there were only a handful of prisoners in the Parisian fortress-prison – it was seen as an assault on royal authority. The King and his family were soon imprisoned, with a deadly fate awaiting them and many others across France.

This time of nationwide change brought into the public eye some colourful characters – many of whom lost their heads. We bring you the stories of some of the pivotal people who defined the Revolution.



1. LOUIS XVI

23 AUGUST 1754 - 21 JANUARY 1793

s the figurehead of the despised Ancien Régime, King Louis XVI was blamed for the suffering felt by the people of France. The chasm between the monarchy and the working classes was vast. What's more, support for the colonists in the American Wa of Independence, as well as France's participation in a number of other costly wars, had seen the country sink deep into debt. But while his people struggled in poverty without enough food to eat, Louis XVI wielded absolute power from his opulent palace at Versailles. The decadence and indifference of the royal family would eventually become too much for the citizens of France to bear.

In an attempt to fix the financial crisis, Louis reluctantly agreed to summon the Estates-General – a form of parliament with representatives from the three estates, the clergy, the nobility and the commons – for the first time in 175 years.

They met in May 1789 and began arguing immediately. By 17 June, the frustrated Third Estate, representing the majority of the population, had had enough. Even though it had the most members, the Third Estate wasn't permitted a vote for every man present, neutering its ability to bring about reform. So it renamed itself as the National Assembly, a body that would represent the people and not the estates themselves. Over the next few days, members of the clergy and nobility joined them and, on 27 June, the King surrendered power to the Assembly.

The royal family were moved from their comfortable surroundings in Versailles to virtual imprisonment at Tuileries Palace in Paris. In June 1791, they made a desperate attempt to escape Paris and launch a counter-revolution, but only made it as far as Varennes – 150 miles away – before being arrested and returned to Tuileries.

On 21 September 1792, the French monarchy was officially abolished, and the First French Republic established. This wasn't the end of Louis' troubles however – the National Convention (a successor of the Assembly) found him guilty of treason on 15 January 1793, sending him to the guillotine. He was executed a few days later, to the rejoicing of jubilant crowds.

2. MARIE ANTOINETTE

2 NOVEMBER 1775 - 16 OCTOBER 1793

ne of the most enduring images associated with the French Revolution is of Marie Antoinette facing her impending death, with disdain for the starving citizens of France. It's a persisting myth that she said "Let them eat cake" – this quote was attributed to her 50 years after her death. However, her unpopularity in France was no tall tale. An Austrian princess, Marie Antoinette married the future Louis XVI when she was just 14 years old. Their union was intended to cement an alliance between Austria and France, which had been at war for many years.

Although initially charmed by this young princess, popular opinion soon turned sour and she became despised by the ordinary working-class French for her lavish spending and extravagance. She even commissioned a model village to be constructed at Versailles as her own personal retreat, which was widely seen as a mockery of peasant life. Rumours circulated that she was having a number of affairs and she began to embody everything that the revolutionaries hated about the Ancien Régime.

After the royal family's failed attempt to flee Paris in June 1791, Antoinette spent the remaining months of her life in various prisons, and France's declaration of war with Austria in April 1792 did nothing to help her situation. Her last prison, the Conciergerie, was infested with rats, and foul water ran through it from the nearby River Seine.

The execution of Louis XVI saw the Queen's two surviving children separated from her, including eight-year-old Louis-Charles who was later made to testify against his mother at her trial. Nine months later, Marie Antoinette was brought before a tribunal and found guilty of treason. She was guillotined on 16 October 1793. Her last words were an apology for standing on the foot of her executioner.

Marie Antoinette's body was thrown into an unmarked grave – her remains, and those of her husband, were exhumed in 1815 and relocated to the Basilica of Saint-Denis.

FROM INFAMOUS
TO IMMORTAL

Antoinette became known as 'Madame Defecit'

owing to her lavish

spending while

France starved

London's famous waxwork museum allows visitors to get up-close and personal with their favourite celebrities and figures from history, but it actually has quite a gruesome history itself. Marie Tussaud was a French artist who learnt how to create wax models in Paris, where she worked with Philippe Curtis – a modeller whose wax museums Tussaud inherited. Tussaud was imprisoned as a royalist after working as the art tutor for Louis XVI's sister, Madame Élisabeth. During the Reign of Terror, she was released on the grisly condition that she create death masks of those who had recently

been guillotined – including those of Louis XVI and Robespierre.

Tussaud eventually left France, taking her waxwork collection to
Britain and establishing her Baker Street exhibition in 1835. The

'Chamber of Horrors' room was created to house some of the
relics she had brought back from revolutionary France.

There is even a waxwork of Marie Tussaud making waxworks

4. CHARLOTTE CORDAY

27 JULY 1768 - 17 JULY 1793

vents like the French Revolution demonstrate the extreme measures people can take in the name of their cause – in the case of Charlotte Corday, it was murder for liberty. Jean-Paul Marat was a journalist and one of the leading supporters of the Montagnards – a radical group within the Jacobin faction of the National Assembly, which advocated violence to achieve equality. It was led by one of the most influential, and ruthless, figures of the French Revolution, Maximilien Robespierre.

In 1789, Marat began writing a newspaper – *L'Ami du Peuple* (*Friend of the People*) – which advocated the rights of the lower classes against the enemies of the people, namely the monarchy and the revolutionary governments that had sprung up.

The paper was

accused of inciting violence and instigating the September Massacres and the Reign of Terror, a particularly dark period of the Revolution, which saw radicals take control of the revolutionary government and hundreds executed by the guillotine.

Charlotte Corday was a minor aristocrat from Caen and a sympathiser of the Girondins – a political group that advocated a less extreme revolution. She grew distressed at the direction in which the Revolution was going and reacted in desperation. On 13 July 1793, after giving assurances that she would betray the Girondins, Corday was invited to Marat's Paris home. He was taking a medicinal bath at the time – due to a debilitating skin disorder – when Corday stabbed him in the chest.

At her trial where she was sentenced to death, Corday explained her reasoning for killing Marat: "I knew that he, Marat, was perverting France. I have killed one man to save a hundred thousand."

According to one local legend, a man slapped the cheek of Corday's severed head, causing it to take on an indignant expression. This fuelled the idea that guillotine victims may retain consciousness for a short while.

3. PRINCESS LAMBALLE

8 SEPTEMBER 1749 - 3 SEPTEMBER 1792

arie-Thérèse-Louise de Savoie-Carignan, Princess de Lamballe, was an intimate companion of Queen Marie Antoinette, and her salon became a popular meeting place for royalist sympathisers after the Revolution began.

Antoinette went to her

death in white - the colour of widowed

queens in France

After a mob attack on Tuileries Palace on 10 August 1792 – where the royal family were being held – the Princess was taken to La Force prison. Between 2 and 4 September – a period later known as the September Massacres – prisoners were hauled in front of hastily-formed courts and sentenced to death. More than half of the 2,700 prisoners were killed, many by armed mobs, the Princess among them.

Refusing to swear an oath renouncing the monarchy on 3 September, Lamballe was delivered to a mob in the streets who awaited her. Various sensational and gruesome accounts of her death were circulated which included her being raped and mutilated. Most, however, agree that Lamballe's head was severed and later processed through the streets, with the crowd intending to flaunt it before Marie Antoinette.



In death at Corday's hand, Jean-Paul Marat became

ALAMY X3, GETTY IMAGES X2, SHUTTERSTOCK X1

5. LOUIS-PHILIPPE, DUKE OF ORLEANS

13 APRIL 1747 - 6 NOVEMBER 1793

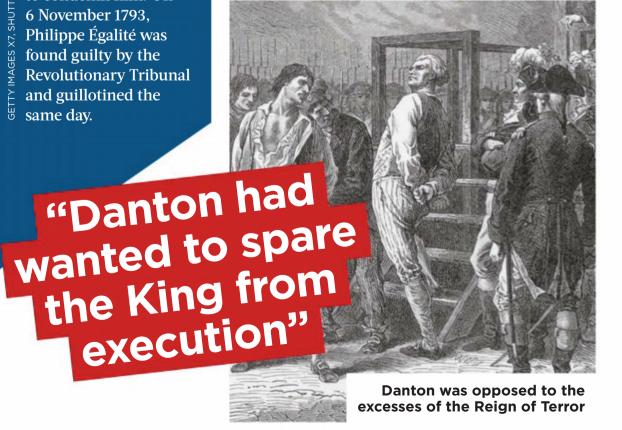
surprising supporter of the Revolution came in the form of the King's cousin the Duke of Orléans. One of the wealthiest men in France, he favoured a transformation from an absolute monarchy to a constitutional monarchy. A champion of the poor, he would often use his wealth to feed the needy and opened up his residence, the Palais-Royal, to the public. Next in line to the throne after the immediate royal family, the Duke had a frosty relationship with his cousin and was openly hostile to Marie Antoinette.

In 1787, after challenging the King's authority in front of the Parlement of Paris (one of the high courts of justice of the Ancien Régime), the Duke was temporarily exiled to his estates. He became a hero for many revolutionaries – especially those involved in the storming of the Bastille – and was elected to represent the nobles in the Estates-General, later joining the National Assembly.

After the fall of the monarchy, the Duke gave up his royal titles and was given the name Philippe Égalité (equality) by the Paris Commune – the government of Paris between 1792 and 1795. After learning that his cousin had called for his execution, the King said: "It really pains me to see that Monsieur d'Orléans, my kinsman, voted for my death."

It would be the former Duke's son, Louis Philippe, who would be his father's downfall. In 1793, after several years serving in the French military, Louis Philippe defected to the Austrians, along with French general Charles-François du Périer Dumouriez. This caused outrage in Paris, and even though there was no evidence suggesting his father had committed any crime, his son's

actions were enough to condemn him. On 6 November 1793, Philippe Égalité was found guilty by the **Revolutionary Tribunal** and guillotined the same day.



The Duke was a cut above his kingly cousin, but that wasn't enough to save him from the chop 6. GEORGES **DANTON 26 OCTOBER 1759 - 5 APRIL 1794**

> riginally trained as a lawyer, Georges Danton was inspired to help the revolutionary cause, joining the civic guard (garde bourgeoise) in 1789. In 1790, along with some militant revolutionaries he founded the Cordeliers Club - created to prevent the abuse of power and violations against the rights of man. A brilliant public speaker, Danton quickly gained fans amongst the Jacobin faction and managed to secure a post in the Paris Commune.

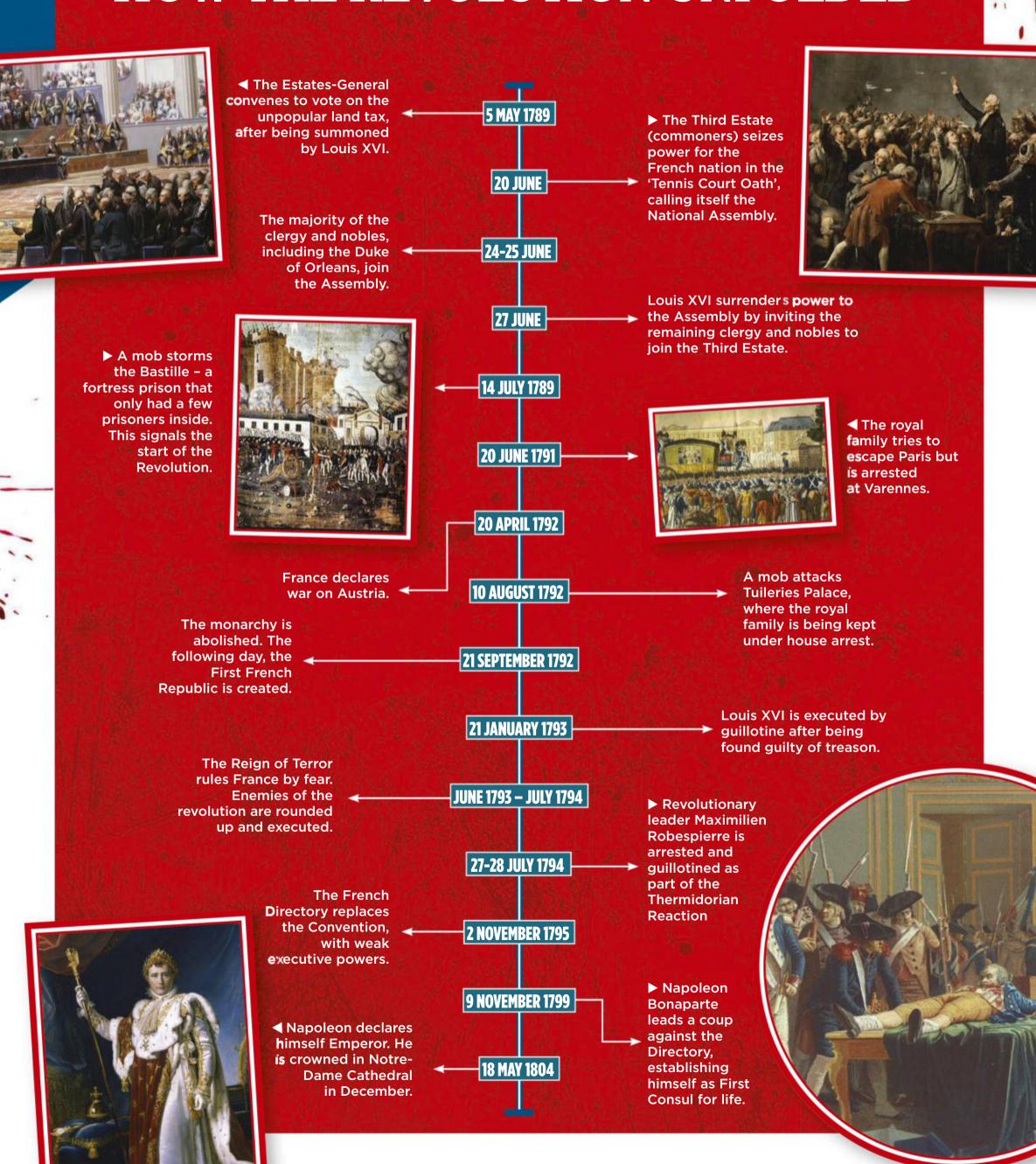
> On 10 August 1792, Tuileries Palace was stormed by the National Guard of the Paris Commune – it's unclear whether Danton actually took part in this overthrow of the monarchy, but he is credited with its success

and was swiftly made Minister of Justice. By September, he had been elected into the National Convention. It's believed that Danton had wanted to spare the King from execution but eventually voted for his death.

In April 1793, Danton became the Committee of Public Safety's first president. Attempts were made to negotiate a peace with Austria, but when these failed Danton was left out of the next committee elections. As the revolution took a darker turn, Danton began to call for a more moderate approach. His continual challenges to Robespierre's violent overtures led to his arrest on 30 March 1794, and he was beheaded a few days later.

Continues on p34

HOW THE REVOLUTION UNFOLDED



7. MAXIMILIEN ROBESPIERRE

6 MAY 1758 - 28 JULY 1794

ne of the most influential figures during the Revolution, Robespierre was originally a lawyer who was elected into the Estates-General and then served as part of the National Constituent Assembly, which had been formed from the National Assembly in 1789. He became popular with the people for his virulent attacks on the monarchy and calls for democratic reform. In 1790, Robespierre became the president of the radical Jacobin Club and then first deputy for Paris to the National Convention. The Convention abolished the monarchy, declared France a republic, and charged Louis XVI with treason.

A power struggle ensued between the Jacobins and the more moderate Girondins. The Jacobins used their influence with the mob to seize control, and leaders of the Girondins were rounded up. The Committee of Public Safety took control of France, with Robespierre becoming its leading force.

The Reign of Terror was now underway. Anyone considered an enemy of the Revolution was guillotined, including Robespierre's former friend Georges Danton. Some 17,000 people were officially executed during the 11 months of the Terror, as Robespierre attempted to consolidate his power.

This dangerous time is **often** remembered as Robespie **re's** defining act during the Revolution – but he would **soon** encounter a fall from grace.

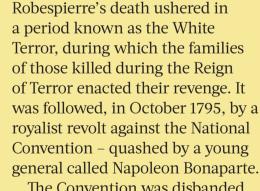
Robespierre's autocratic **rule** soon saw his popularity diminish – he had even tried to establish a new national religion known as the Cult of the Supreme Being. A plan was hatched by the Convention to overthrow him. On 27 July 1794, after some resistance, Robespierre was arrested after being denounced as a tyrant in a counter-revolution that became known as the Thermidorian Reaction. During the scuffle he was shot in the jaw – it's unclear whether Robespierre shot himself or was shot by one of his captors.

The next day, Robespierre and 21 of his supporters were sent to the guillotine. The executioner tore off the bandage covering his jaw, causing him to cry out in agony before the falling blade silenced him forever. According to witnesses, the crowd cheered for 15 minutes at

his demise.



WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?



A wax bust of Robespierre's

head, taken from his death mask

The Convention was disbanded in November 1795. In its place came the French Directory, a body that hope to reverse the quasidictatorship that had ruled France during the Terror. The number of executions began to fall and measures against royalists and the clergy were relaxed, but even so the Directory was full of corruption.

In November 1799, Napoleon led a coup against the Directory, establishing himself as First Consul. This ended the revolution but would begin the Napoleonic era, throughout which he attempted to conquer most of Europe. The monarchy was restored in 1814 after Napoleon's defeat, with Louis XVI's brothers, Louis XVIII and Charles X, ruling as constitutional monarchs. The July Revolution of 1830 saw Charles X forced to abdicate in favour of his cousin Louis Philippe I – son of the executed Duke of Orleans. Rebellions in 1832 against this 'July Monarchy' serve as the setting for Victor Hugo's classic novel *Les Misérables*.

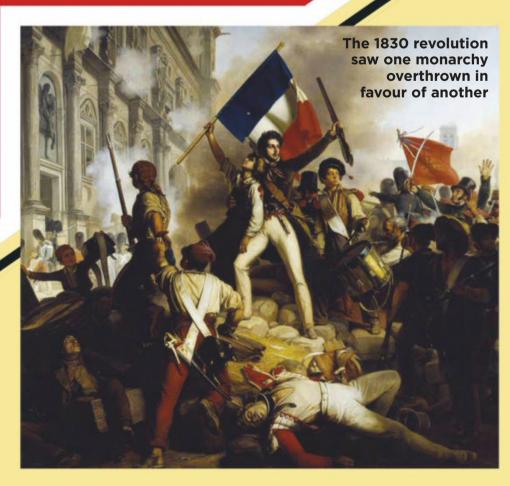
Revolution revisited France again in 1848, when the wellspring of political upheaval washed over Western Europe. This time, the monarchy was abolished for good. •

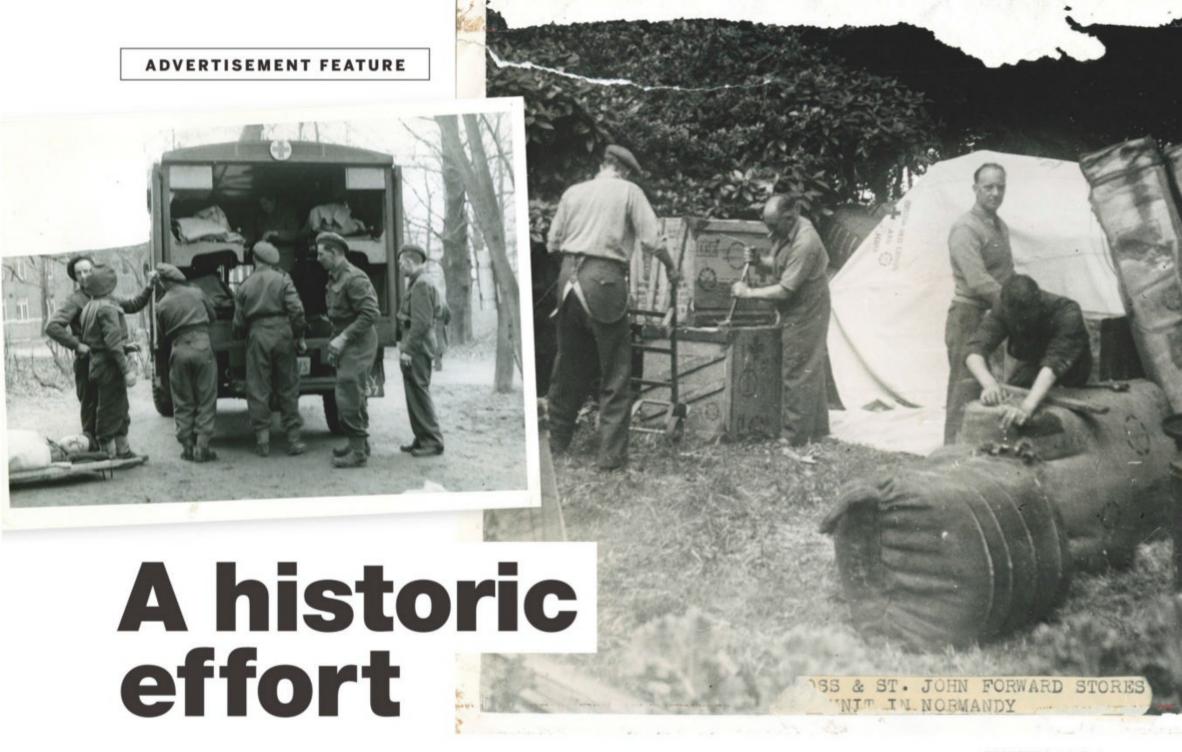
GET HOOKED



LISTEN

Melvyn Bragg and guests discuss the French Revolution's Reign of Terror on In Our Time on BBC Radio Four www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p003k9cf





FOLLOWING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY, THE BRITISH RED CROSS REMEMBERS THE INCREDIBLE ACTS CARRIED OUT BY VOLUNTEERS

TOP LEFT: British Red Cross Ambulance Platoon No. 1; France, 1944. ABOVE: British Red Cross and Order of Saint John Forward Stores Unit; Normandy, 1944

he 6 June this year marked the 75th anniversary of D-Day, when Allied forces landed in Normandy and opened up a Western Front in Europe. D-Day was the largest seaborne invasion in history, and – combined with a major Soviet push on the Eastern Front – helped bring the war in Europe to an end the following year.

Working closely with the American and Canadian Red Crosses, the British Red Cross was quick to respond to D-Day. Extensive supplies were sent to southern ports following the invasion in preparation for supporting the sick and wounded soldiers who were being evacuated back to southern England.

Once the invasion was underway, Red Cross societies coordinated to ensure that they arrived in Normandy on 7 July, a month after the initial landing, but before the breakout from the beachheads. British Red Cross teams were quickly assigned to field hospitals, offering not just medical supplies and support for the wounded but also morale-boosting comforts, from jam to books and chess sets.

The conditions were difficult and primitive.
Convoys of wounded soldiers arrived at all hours, and it was common for Red Cross staff to be woken up at 2am for duty in a draughty tent, where they served tea while the servicemen waited to be seen by a medical officer. Despite the grim reality, all sources attest to the cheerfulness and dedication of these British Red Cross volunteers, as well as the key role they played in supporting the sick and injured in their time of need.

LEAVE YOUR OWN LEGACY

The work carried out by the British Red Cross is as essential today as it was in 1944. It's thanks to the generosity of its supporters that the charity can always be ready to help those in crisis – whether they're on the other side of the world or on your own street. By leaving a gift to the British Red Cross in your will, you can leave a lasting legacy and ensure this vital charity can continue to support vulnerable people for many years to come.



For more information about supporting the British Red Cross with a gift in your will and the Free Will scheme, visit redcross.org.uk/freewill or call 0300 500 0401

WEHAVELIFIEDFE!

Man on the Moon 50th Anniversary

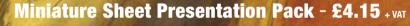
a 1969 Jersey perspective

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The riots centred on this Mafia-run bar, a place where the most marginalised people in the gay community could be themselves

Police raids on gay bars were not uncommon in 1960s America – so why was this one different? **Jon Savage** explores the flashpoint that launched the gay rights movement in the US





New York City Police had done this sort of thing many times before: rousting gay bar patrons, fully knowing that in their shame and surprise they would not offer any resistance. But, in the early hours of 28 June 1969, the familiar script was torn up. When eight policemen arrived to raid the Stonewall Inn in New York's Greenwich Village, they proceeded as usual: checking ID documents, arresting obvious 'female impersonators', and generally harassing the clientele.

However, the mood quickly took an unfamiliar turn. Instead of the usual compliance, people fought back inside the club. While this was going on, a crowd of forcibly ejected clubbers gathered outside: as it happened, the Stonewall Inn was on a block with a small public space, Christopher Park.

Something snapped. As the police began to load in transvestites and young hustlers - street prostitutes - into their vans, a fierce lesbian fought the

from insult to action.

First it was bottles and loose change. Then it was bricks and paving stones, heaved at the police. Taken aback by the ferocity of a previously passive minority, the police ceded the streets and retreated back into the club. Once barricaded in, they were assaulted with parking meters, garbage cans and Molotov cocktails by an enraged crowd, which had swelled to several hundred people. "I was sick of being told I was sick," one rioter remembered, while the general mood was "this has got to stop".

The police inside the club were in real danger. It took the intervention of the Tactical Patrol Force - a militarised section of the NYPD - to restore order to the area after several hours. The disturbances happened again on the next night and a few days later: by the time they were over, there was no doubt that a new era had been sparked. The year 1966 had seen the emergence of

Heightened tensions led to more stand-offs between gay residents and **NYPD officers** in the nights that followed

Black Power, but in 1969 there was Gay Power. In the months after Stonewall there were new, upfront magazines like GAY and a new agitprop movement, the Gay Liberation Front.

UP AGAINST THE WALL

The Stonewall was an unlikely arena for such a profound shift. Mafia owned and run, it was a very basic drinking bar without most amenities. It had no running water, terrible toilets and no fire exits. It was a location for blackmail - if the owners thought a client was rich and vulnerable - and drug dealing. And yet to many young gay men and trans people, it was home. Unlike most other gay bars in New York, it was a place where men could freely dance with other men - to Tamla Motown and soul, principally.

The location of the club in the heart of Greenwich Village - an area popular



with gay people - was important, as was the street nature of the clientele. Though the raid can now be seen as the straw that broke the camel's back, it had been a long time coming.

Even in 1967, when the British Parliament voted to partially decriminalise homosexuality, the legal and social situation for many Americans was still

stuck in the 1950s. It was frustration at the slow pace of change that helped to trigger this flashpoint.

In 1969, legislation affecting gay people in America was pursued on a state-by-state basis. There was a great deal of prejudice against gay men: they were shut out of most bars, routinely targeted by police crackdowns

(especially when there was an upcoming election), and in general subject to social disapproval, ostracism and, in certain occupations, blackmail. The American Psychiatric Association still held that homosexuality was a psychiatric disorder, which meant that in some circumstances gay people were sent to mental hospitals.

BELOW: Though many advocated for open rebellion, there were voices - including the Mattachine Society - that urged restraint

The law and the institutions and conventional morality were out of sync with reality. By 1969, years of committed, albeit small scale activism and the development of a subterranean gay market had resulted in the persistence of small gay communities in cities around the US - with particular concentrations in San Francisco, New York and Los Angeles. By 1969, the subject of homosexuality was in the air, with major articles in The Wall Street Journal and a front cover of TIME magazine that noted a new militancy and fresh demands for respect and equality.

It had taken a long time. The drive for homosexual equality had begun in the early 1950s, the darkest days of the McCarthy era, when the author Donald Webster Cory had identified the penalties for frankness as being "so great that pretence is almost universal". Cory thought that only activism could break this closed loop: "Until we are willing to speak out openly and frankly in defence of our activities, and to identify ourselves with the millions pursuing these activities, we are unlikely to find the attitudes of the world undergoing any significant change."

While Cory was preparing his groundbreaking book The Homosexual in America, the first post-war homophile (as it was termed at the time) organisation was formed in Los Angeles, the Mattachine Society. Its founder members included Harry

Hay and designer Rudi Gernreich.
The word came from the Société
Mattachine, a medieval masque group
that travelled around France dramatising
injustice with songs and plays. The
name was used in the 1950s context to
emphasise the fact gay men and women
were, in the words of co-founder
Harry Hay, "a masked people, unknown
and anonymous."

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

From slow beginnings, the society gradually spread, with branches around the country - in Chicago, Washington DC, New York and San Francisco. Even more important than the grassroots activism were the publications issued by the Mattachine Society and its offshoots and affiliates over the next few years. These included *ONE* magazine, founded in 1952 by Dorr Legg and Dale Jennings; *Mattachine Review*, founded in 1955 by Hal Call; and *The Ladder*, a magazine founded by the first American lesbian activist group, the Daughters of Bilitis.

These titles had small circulations: *ONE* sold around 5,000 copies, *Mattachine Review* 2,000 while *The Ladder* struggled to sell 500. They also varied in approach; the *Mattachine Review* was sober, *ONE* more radical and assertive. All attempted to bring news about the legal and social status of homosexual men and women while running stories, poems and articles that illuminated the gay condition. There were book reviews, adverts for gay-oriented products and letters from readers - many of whom did not give their full name.

Over the next decade, these magazines and their affiliated political groupings did their best to pursue a policy of raising consciousness – ultimately driving for equality, the lack of legal harassment, greater tolerance and respect from the American public, and even gay marriage. These were serious minded, wordy publications that in the late 1950s and early 1960s seemed to be fighting an uphill struggle against prejudice, fear of exposure, and a lack of self-esteem on the part of gay people at large.

It was hard to counter society's estimation that homosexuals were the lowest of the low, which was ingrained in the psyches of so many gay men. As the *Eastern Mattachine Magazine* observed in June 1965, noting the '15th' anniversary year of the homophile movement: "The method of keeping minority groups 'in their place' is by having the majority oppress them, instill fear in them and convince them of their lack of worth. When the minority



New York bars were not allowed to serve alcohol to the 'disorderly', which at the time de facto included homosexuals. In 1966, these openly gay men tried to buy a drink in a calm manner. They were still refused

"Stonewall pushed militancy into the foreground of gay politics"

accepts this set of standards, they ... will not fight back."

Nevertheless by 1965 the successes of the Civil Rights movement gave the homophile movement inspiration: as the *Mattachine Review* noted in that year, "For the first time in history, homosexuals are on the march. Out of the shadows they have stepped in the open to march in public demonstrations, protesting the policies of hostile governments which have persecuted them and denied to them their rights as citizens and as human beings ... Nothing like these demonstrations has been seen before."

This increased assertion went handin-hand with the expansion of gay consumer culture. This had, for a long time, focused on physique magazines which, bought under the counter or by mail order in their many thousands, were for many gay men the only connection with others like them. Their spread was massive, compared to the homophile movement magazines: in 1965, one title, *Tomorrow's Man*, had a circulation of 100,000 copies - at least 20 times that of *ONE* - while the estimated monthly sales of all titles was around 750,000.

Catalogues like *Vagabond* and magazines like *Drum* invited the reader into a discrete gay world. A whole range of products were offered, from togas to handkerchief sets to signet rings, records

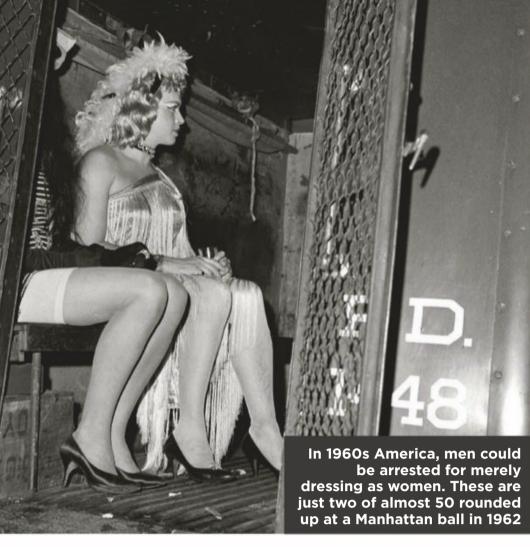


and rather skimpy beach towels. *Drum* featured adverts for a large assortment of gay books – authors like Oscar Wilde, topics like Ancient Greece. In fostering the idea that there was a history and even an aesthetic of homosexuality, there was an implicit encouragement for gay people to recognise that they were part of something bigger than their oftenisolated selves.

THE FIGHTBACK BEGINS

The first gay fightback came in 1966, a small-scale but eruptive riot that predicted the Stonewall disturbances. Sometime in August - the exact date is not known - about 50 or 60 young gay men and drag queens went on the rampage, infuriated by heavy-handed and intrusive policing inside an establishment that they felt to be a safe-haven, Compton's Cafeteria in San Francisco's Tenderloin district.

Compton's popularity among young gay men, hustlers and drag queens came from its status as an all-night venue and the fact that for a long while, the evening manager was a homosexual man who created a sympathetic atmosphere. When





he died, the management introduced a 25 cent cover charge and hired Pinkerton security guards to harass the clientele. In July, members of Vanguard, a local organisation supporting hustlers and gay kids, picketed the venue in protest.

The trigger for August's riot was a young transvestite throwing coffee over an aggressive cop. "With that, cups, saucers and trays began flying around the place, and all directed at the police," Guy Strait – founder of the first gay newspaper in San Francisco – related in the August Issue of gay magazine *Cruise News*. "They retreated outside until reinforcements arrived, and Compton's management ordered the doors closed. With that, the gays began breaking every window in the place."

As they ran outside to escape the breaking glass, the police tried to grab them and throw them in their vans. "They found this no easy task, for the gays began hitting them 'below the belt' and drag queens [began] hitting them in the face with their extremely heavy purses. A police car had every window

LGBT activism
wasn't limited to
New York. From
1965-69,
protestors in
Philadelphia
picketed
Independence
Hall - where the
Declaration was
signed - calling
for their own 'Bill
of Rights'

GAY RIGHTS MILESTONES IN THE US AND UK

NOVEMBER 1950

▶ The Mattachine Society is formed by activist Harry Hay and designer Rudi Gernreich (right) in Los Angeles. It is one of the first sustained gay rights groups in the US. It was followed by other groups – ONE and the Daughters of Bilitis – that did much to lay the groundwork for the greater liberalisation that occurred during the 1960s.



JULY 1967

Across the pond, the Sexual Offences Act 1967 decriminalises sex between two men over 21 and 'in private' in England and Wales. It does not extend to the Merchant Navy or the Armed Forces, or Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man.

DECEMBER 1973

The American Psychiatric Association removes homosexuality from its list of mental disorders in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*. Homosexuality had been previously thought to be a curable illness, with the use of aversion therapy and even electric shocks.



JANUARY 1978

■ Harvey Milk is inaugurated as San Francisco city supervisor, and is the first openly gay man to be elected to a political office in California. At around the same time, the Castro district in San Francisco becomes a gay mecca for men all over the US.

MAY 2004

► The first legal same-sex marriage in the US takes place in Massachusetts. In the same year, the Civil Partnership Act is passed in the UK, followed by the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act in 2013.







broken, a newspaper shack outside the cafeteria was burned to the ground, and general havoc ensued that night in the Tenderloin."

CHANGING THE GUARD

Just like the Stonewall riots nearly three years later, the fight back against prejudice and harassment began from those who had the least to lose, the lowest of the low. There was the feeling that, as Bob Dylan sang, "when you got nothing, you got nothing to lose". After the riot, members of Vanguard issued a press release that stated, in capital letters: WE HAVE HEARD TOO MUCH ABOUT 'WHITE POWER' AND 'BLACK POWER' SO GET READY TO HEAR ABOUT 'STREET POWER'.

Stonewall pushed this militancy into the foreground of gay politics. The old guard, who had kept the flame alive during the dark days of the 1950s and 1960s, were superseded by a new generation. In late July, the Gay Liberation Front formed in New York: it immediately organised a march to continue the momentum of Stonewall, and demanded an end to gay persecution. In the UK, the Gay Liberation Front was set up in October 1970. One year after the Stonewall Riots, the first Gay Pride event was held in New York City.

The spark had been lit. These new movements were not ashamed to be gay and different. Unlike the previous generation of homophile protestors, they emerged into a different climate in both America and Britain, where the bounds of traditional morality were being loosened by a fast moving, experimental mass youth culture and determined activists from right across the spectrum of minorities. The rhetoric changed from a desperate cry in near total isolation to increased confidence and pride. As the button badge stated, 'Gay is Good'.

While partially informed by the hippie/radical movements of the time, the Gay Liberation Front has proved an enduring idea, stimulating groups in the West and in other parts of the world specifically devoted to gay (and now LGBTQ+) rights. In that respect, the events outside the Stonewall Inn in those boiling days of late June and early July were a historical turning point. They showed that a despised minority could gain self-respect by fighting back; that a determined and courageous intervention could make a lasting difference. •

GET HOOKED



WATCH

Explore the significance of the Stonewall uprising in an episode of *Omnibus* on BBC World Service at www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0376kw0

READ

Learn more about the legacy of the Stonewall Riots in issue 16 of *BBC World Histories Magazine*, on sale 23 May

With the formation of Gay Liberation Front movements in the US and the UK at the dawn of the 1970s came a greater focus on gay rights and an increased public awareness of gay issues – spearheaded by the visibility of gay pride events in cities across Britain and America. The first national gay rights march in the US happened during October 1979, by which time gay culture - in its most public manifestation, disco - had swept through popular culture.

The onset of AIDS from 1981 brought a severe check to this liberalisation, but the overt prejudice against gay people exhibited during those years resulted in a concerted fightback by the end of the decade, with groups like Stonewall and OutRage! (in the UK) and ACT UP (in the US). These more militant and effective groups began the struggle for total equality - considerably realised by the equal marriage legislation passed in both the US and the UK in the early years of the 21st century.



Demonstators pay their respects to the victims of AIDS - represented by these enormous quilts - in 1987

THE SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER

Gripping,

OBSERVER

'A lesson on the timeless challenges of standing up to aggression'

FINANCIAL TIMES

'One of the most promising young historians to enter our field for years'

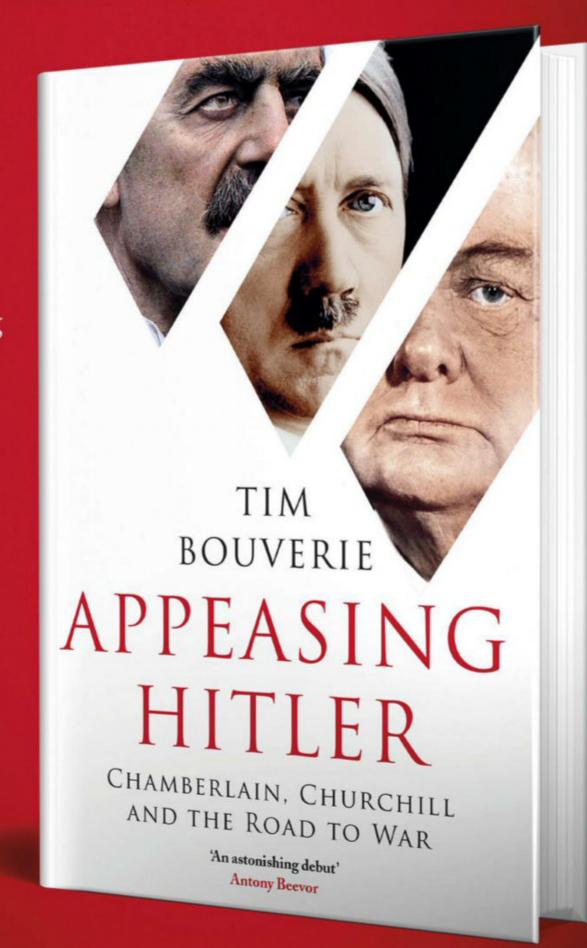
MAX HASTINGS

'A superbly constructed panorama of the Thirties'

MAIL ON SUNDAY

'Brilliant . . . an account of the build-up to the Second World War that reads like a thriller'

PETER FRANKOPAN





Cathedrals are often grand, opulent and magnificent - though sometimes more by accident than design. Emma J Wells unpicks the architectural fails of the medieval church builders

t was Ascension Day, 1573. Crowds filled Beauvais Cathedral in northern France, ready to celebrate holy mass. But as the solemn procession snaked towards the high altar, heavy thuds could be heard resonating throughout the stone edifice. Before the eyes of horror-struck worshippers, the colossal 500-foot crossing tower came crashing down, a veil of debris and dust slowly enveloping the church. Only a few years in existence and the tallest of its kind, this was not the first time this ambitious addition had been the cause of the cathedral's collapse.

Beauvais Cathedral continues to be plagued by structural problems. High above the continuous stream of 21st-century churchgoers and tourists, modern braces are the only element keeping it from crumbling. These may be an unsettling reminder of a medieval disaster, but they are also evidence of a lesson learned: caution over creativity.

"Experience is the name everyone gives to their mistakes." Although tinged with irony, Oscar Wilde's words are a testament to medieval architects and masons. In essence, some of our greatest abbey churches and cathedrals - these seemingly divine representations of the Heavenly Jerusalem - are masterpieces of miscalculation and unfortunate happenings (whether deliberate, accidental or foolish).

But though invention could bring disaster, catastrophe also heralded opportunity and discovery. From towering infernos to bodgejobs, medieval ecclesiastical fabric (that is, the walls, floor and roof) is a roster of the stories and characters responsible for its creation.

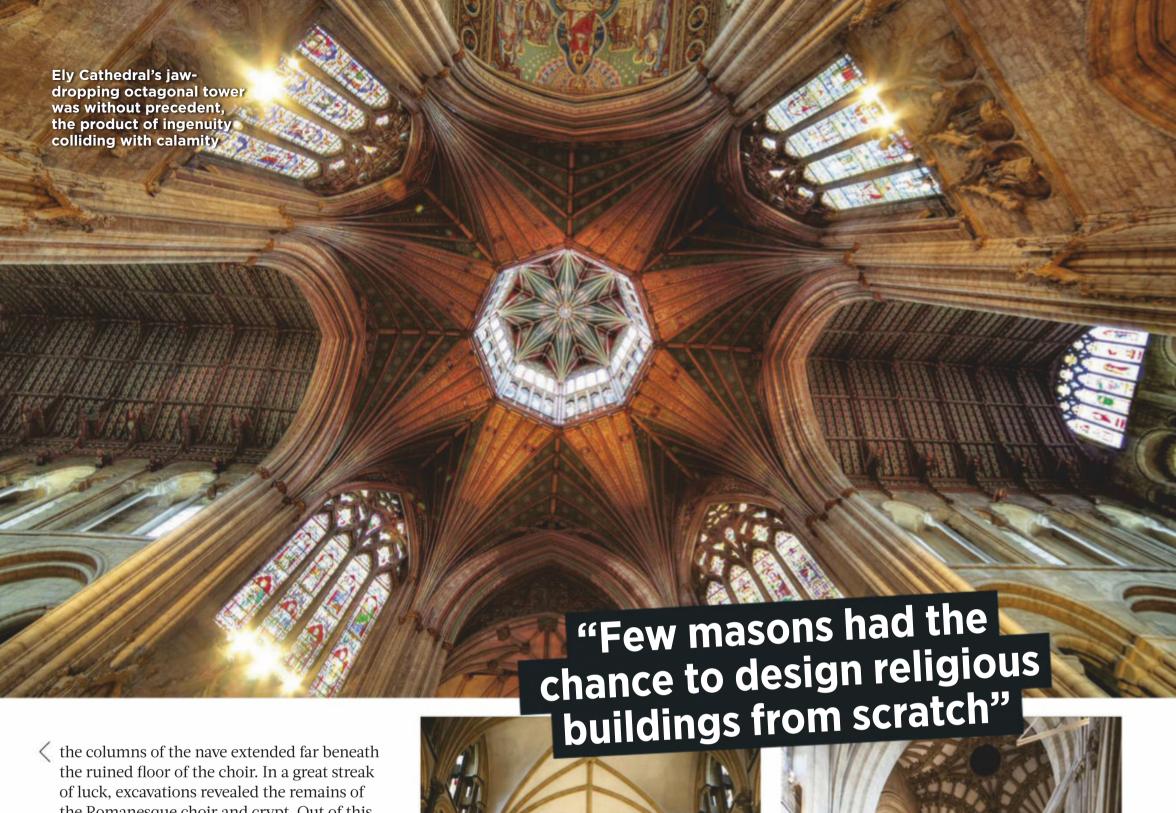
HOPE FROM THE ASHES

On a gloomy February morning in 1829, a zealous non-conformist did his very best to burn York Minster to the ground. As choristers made their way across the Minster yard, they noticed sparks rising from the cathedral's

medieval timber roof. As debris, molten lead and blazing timbers began to rain down, firefighters were forced to evacuate the choir. Long into the night, the people of York strove to save the rest of the structure, but the pulpit, organ and much irreplaceable music were destroyed. Even before the fire was extinguished, authorities suspected arson. The culprit, Jonathan Martin, was sent to Bedlam for the rest of his life.

York owes much of its origins to several disastrous fires. Infernos struck a handful of times throughout the medieval period, while the current structure faced further blazes in 1753, 1840 and most recently in 1984. But during clearance of rubble from the 1829 disaster, the





the ruined floor of the choir. In a great streak of luck, excavations revealed the remains of the Romanesque choir and crypt. Out of this catastrophe, one of the most important ever archaeological discoveries pertaining to the previous building was made. History can therefore offer hope, as tragedy frequently leads to triumph.

LIVING IN THE PAST

Relatively few medieval masons had the opportunity to design religious buildings from scratch. Invention was commonly restricted by what had gone before, requiring more creative adaptation. What resulted was often an extraordinary mix of calamity, evolution and revolution. An exemplar of such invention from catastrophe was Ely Cathedral's Octagon. In February 1322, the church's Romanesque crossing tower crashed to the ground with such "thunderous noise" that many believed the cause to be an earthquake. Barely had the dust settled before an experimental new space was envisioned: a vast, 21-metre-wide octagonal latern soaring up through the centre of the church. It was without precedent in English architecture, having eight piers, rather than the usual four of a more orthodox tower.

Central or crossing towers were the nuisance of the medieval mason. The arches wanted to push outwards, so the buildings were sometimes guilty of misbehaviour that could produce a collapse. Cathedrals were essentially a house of cards, where the placement of every individual

Lincoln Cathedral's misaligned ceiling vaults point to masons who didn't plan too far ahead

stone played a pivotal role. Nonetheless, as well as "beneficial" collapses like Ely, the towers also remained a consistent outlet for creative ambition. After two further storeys were added to the tower at Wells Cathedral in the early 14th century, the entire structure was threatening collapse. But the master mason's bold and original solution became one of the most memorable sights of all English architecture and part of the very identity of the cathedral: three strainer arches, one under each crossing arch

Wells's prominent strainer arches are now part of the character of the cathedral

(to take the weight) – mimicking what many refer to as scissors, owls or eyes. We can only wonder whether the medieval clergy regarded them with such idiosyncrasy.

Though invention involved risk, it also required self-belief. Dubbed "crazy", the ribbed vault over the choir at Lincoln Cathedral is something of an enigma. Although there were no obvious structural risks in its creation, there is a clear set of additional ribs in the pattern which disrupt the overall symmetry. The only



explanation for this unorthodoxy over uniformity, is that the design was worked out as building progressed – a cavalier approach to not thinking too far ahead.

Far from crazy, this was actually a rational response to the particular geometries of the cathedral, though admittedly it did give way to a slew of additional mistakes: especially noticeable are the juxtaposition of irregular arches and a motley crew of misalignments in the main transepts.

A further high-point of creative satisfaction in the simple audacity of the mason's choice can be found in Gloucester Cathedral's choir. Essentially, any past faults were concealed (and any further work required reduced) by the insertion of a "skin" or frame of tracery, which stretches across the interior of the

Romanesque fabric. So, employing this web of secrets, the Benedictine monks hid their past mistakes without losing any of the old work – blessed monks.

Completing the work of those who have gone before has often led to tragedy and trouble. Building work had to be strung out over lengthy periods, whatever the associated reason – resources, economics, expertise, disease. While in many cases this did not inhibit invention, occasionally master masons enjoyed overthrowing the designs of their predecessors resulting in rather interesting architectural discord.

Perhaps the most infamous, at least for the story behind the blunder, is the "odd" southernmost pier or column of Durham Cathedral's south transept. To accentuate the most significant areas in the choir Series of arches supported by piers or columns.

2. BOSS

A structural feature, such as a knob or projection on the intersection of a rib-vault (not pictured).

3. CROSSING

Central space at the junction of the nave, chancel and transepts.

4. CHANCEL

The eastern end of the church, where the altar is positioned.

5. MOULDING

Shaped ornamental strip.

Transverse portion (arms) of a church.

7. SHAFTS

Main part of a column.

8. RIB-VAULT

A vault (arched stone roof) with a masonry framework of intesecting arches (ribs).

9. TRACERY

Openwork pattern of masonry or timber.

10. VAULTING SHAFT

Shaft leading to a springing (level at which arch or vault rises from supports) of a vault.





Legend has it this hybrid south-transept column was executed by an apprentice in the master mason's absence (this tale has also been linked to Rosslyn Chapel in Scotland and Lincoln Cathedral, so its authenticity is dubious). In actuality, there are many possible reasons for the anomaly. Some have dismissed it as a mistake resulting from the miscalculation of blocks required for assembly, while others have given it much more profound importance. Medieval builders frequently used spirals to highlight areas of special sanctity, following the model of Old St Peter's Basilica in Rome. On these grounds, the pier may have indicated where the relics of St Cuthbert were once temporarily housed, or at least the location of a reliquary or altar.

NO FEAR OF FAILURE

The medieval mentality certainly valued virtue in experiment; there was no fear in taking a chance on the unknown. Relatively few scale models were used as reference, so the construction of our greatest cathedrals and abbey churches was as much a learning process as anything else. In around 1195, the monastic church of St Albans saw a programme of work

"Spirals were used to highlight areas of special sanctity, following the model of Old St Peter's in Rome"

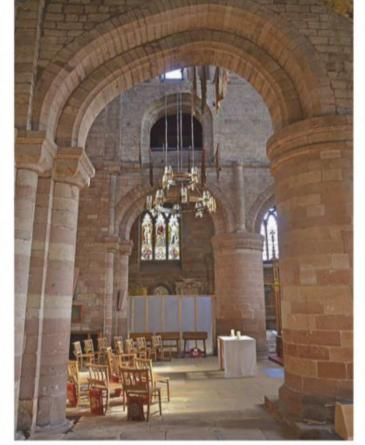
to the western section of the nave. A key part of the scheme involved a magnificent new facade.

The ambitious design was the brainchild of new abbot, John de Cella, eager to make his mark. But his plan soon began to unravel. Not only was progress slow but walls began collapsing and the carving disintegrated, supposedly having been left out for the winter. The abbot blamed master mason Hugh de Goldclif for the shoddy outcome, suggesting his desire for too much unnecessary and costly carving was the cause, and so dismissed him. The trivial tussle was thus immortalised in the fabric. Hugh planned his nave extension with sumptuous octagonal columns surrounded by eight detached shafts. Along the west wall, the

bottom sections remain unfinished – like the stumps of a tree, forever waiting to receive the shafts that would never be.

Although careful attention was customarily paid to preserving old work and matching it with the new, in many cases the relief that fabric still remained, and remained stable, was enough to simply add a handy roof boss, decorative headstop or fancy foliage to conceal any bodges. And so, fabric is often littered with rather comical corrections.

An abundance can be found at the east end of York, its irregularities comprising the subtle characteristics which make the Minster such a splendid and important architectural edifice. Many of these stem from a need to accomplish



Wonky arches and saggy galleries are rife in Carlisle Cathedral, beset by subsidence

the work in two phases throughout the 14th century; from the problems in setting out a new structure designed to link the old with the new. What resulted was a slight kink in the south arcade causing it to deviate southwards from the fourth pier from the east – essentially, producing a concertinaed wall. You can also distinctly see the joins - the junction between the two stages of work. The corbels (projecting blocks) to the east of the vaulting shafts within the Lady Chapel are decorated with leaves, while to the west, within the choir, they are plainly moulded. And Carlisle Cathedral faced similar wonky woes - in fact it is riddled with them with every arm of its central crossing plagued by a concertinaed distortion due to sinking piers.

THE DEVIL AND THE DETAIL

There are some mistakes that defy belief. In 1248, master mason Gerhard of Ryle was commissioned to design a new plan for the cathedral at Cologne, after the old was discovered no longer worthy. Consumed by



doubt over his own abilities, he began to despair. As he gazed across the Rhine upon his work so far, a stranger appeared before him. The stranger began compiling a superb plan to construct the cathedral in just three years. Astonished, Gerhard petitioned the gentleman what he must give in exchange for the plan. The stranger requested Gerhard's soul. He agreed.

Countless versions of the concluding part of the story survive, but all agree on one thing: Master Gerhard's happiness was short-lived. After engineering his own vengeful plot to deceive the Devil, he imposed a curse on the cathedral: as soon as it was to be completed, the end of the world would come. Essentially, Cologne would never be finished.

For centuries, it appeared as if this premonition had merit. In reality, the foundation stone of the north tower was laid around 1500, but little more work progressed and efforts on the cathedral slowly ceased. And so people began to tell the fable. It was not until 1842 that work began once again, with completion in 1880.

Fuelled by faith and guided by daring engineering, medieval ecclesiastical masons and architects forever changed how we build. Pushing the limits of their technology, their quest to reach celestial heights often came at the price of structural instability, mistake, fire and even ultimate collapse. But this construction took place before the era of elaborate plans or drawings, so dealing with individual components rather than comprehensive schemes was par for the course.

Furthermore, the range of skills expected of masons was extensive: from hewing and squaring the blocks of stone, to sculpting it into capitals, the entire process could often be in their hands. Is it any wonder mistakes occurred? So although earthly limitations brought some cathedrals crashing to the ground, on the whole they fulfilled the purpose of achieving heaven on earth. Just remember: a glorious cathedral, Satan does not build, so best not to get around mistakes by making a pact with the Devil. •

REVIVING NOTRE-DAME

In the aftermath of the fire at the Cathedral of Notre-Dame on 15 April, experts are rallying round in the hopes of saving what remains, and restoring the sacred landmark to its former glory. But what options are available for its future? At present, we can only speculate, but the primary concern will be removing the cages of melted scaffolding that were covering much of the exterior as part of ongoing restoration efforts.

The whole will then be protected (using an umbrella-type sheath) to keep out the elements. From there, a detailed inspection can be carried out of the interior. Surprisingly, some of the masonry and wood will be salvaged and even reused, so time will be spent sifting through the mounds of fallen debris. Archaeological surveys of the stonework, timber and glass will then be undertaken in order to assess what survives, and to inform possible approaches to the building's future design – whatever they might be. At this stage, that is still unconfirmed. But rather than bemoaning 21st-century design, perhaps we need to accept that, fundamentally, the past can be recaptured. Though pastiche is frequently unsuitable, there is room for contemporary design which employs traditional skills and materials yet captures original form without appearing incongruous.



They're best known for their careers before and after World War II, but these men and women also fought for the Allies



Clark Gable was inspired

CLARK GABLE

The 'King of Hollywood' volunteered for the US Army Air Forces at the age of 40 and flew combat missions as a tail gunner. Clark Gable's service saw him gain an unexpected fan, Adolf Hitler, who offered a substantial reward for anyone who captured the movie star alive. But a near miss during a raid on Germany concerned his movie studio so much that they asked for Gable to be reassigned to noncombat duty. He resigned a major.

AUDREY HEPBURN

Hepburn suffered from

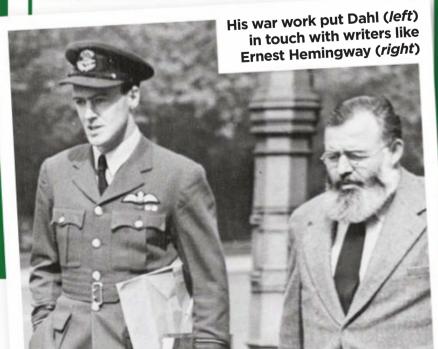
the Nazi occupation

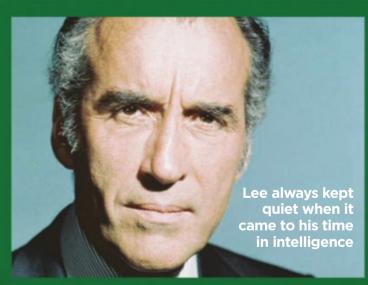
severe malnutrition during

Despite being a child during the war, the future film and fashion icon did her bit by aiding the Dutch Resistance. Hepburn's mother had moved to the Netherlands hoping the neutral country would avoid attack, but that was not to be - the Nazis invaded in 1940. While both her parents, actually supported fascism, the young Hepburn raised money for the Resistance by dancing at secret performances, and, like other children, she may have acted as a courier too. After she rose to global stardom, Hepburn only intensified her humanitarian efforts. She became a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador in 1989.

ROALD DAHL

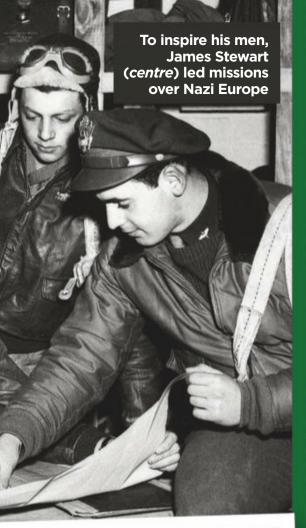
Anyone who has read *Going Solo* knows there was more to Roald Dahl than beloved stories of a Big Friendly Giant, chocolate factories and marvellous medicines. Shortly after war broke out, he joined the RAF as a pilot. He qualified as a fighter ace – seeing combat over Greece in 1941 – but was invalided home suffering the effects of a plane crash, which had temporarily blinded him. Dahl was later posted to the US to work as a spy delivering information to Winston Churchill.





CHRISTOPHER LEE

Over his seven-decade career, the English actor was a prolific movie villain – notably Saruman in *The Lord of the Rings* and Dracula, a role he played 10 times – but in the war, he hunted real villains. Lee served as an RAF intelligence officer in North Africa, the Mediterranean and Italy, and was attached to the precursor of the SAS. In the months after the war ended, he helped track down and interrogate Nazi war criminals.



JAMES STEWART

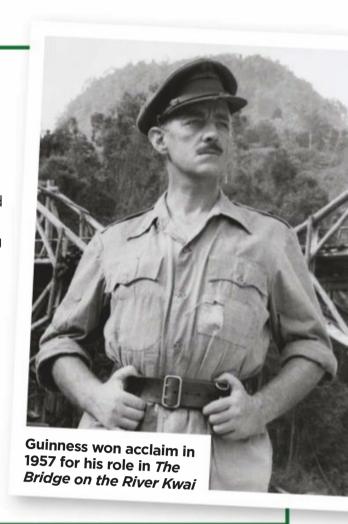
With military roots in his family, James Stewart, an actor on the rise in the late 1930s, enlisted as a private before the US had even joined the war. His career would take off again in 1946 with It's a Wonderful Life, by which time he had become a heavily decorated officer. Stewart joined the Air Corps and, appealing against decisions to keep him away from combat, flew more than 1,800 hours in bomber missions. He ended his service a colonel - being promoted in 1945 - and having been awarded many medals, including the Distinguished Flying Cross twice.

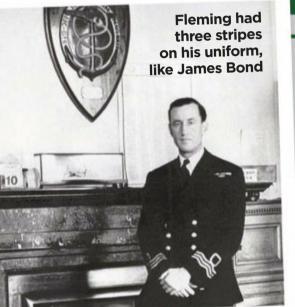
ALEC GUINNESS

Before Star Wars, there was World War II. British actor Alec Guinness put his theatre career on hold when he joined the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve in 1941. The following year, he was granted leave to make his Broadway debut in Flare Path, a play about RAF Bomber Command. Guinness commanded a landing craft during the Allied invasion of Sicily in 1943, but when the war was over he swapped the beaches of Sicily for the desert planet of Tatooine when he accepted the role of Jedi master Obi-Wan Kenobi.

Marceau saved many

children from the Holocaust





IAN FLEMING

It is fitting that the mastermind behind James Bond spent the war devising and overseeing operations in naval intelligence.

Commander Ian Fleming created a team of real-life 007s, known as 30 Assault Unit, which succeeded, among many other things, in capturing an Enigma machine. It's

believed that Bond's superior, M, was inspired by Fleming's boss and Director of Naval Intelligence, John Godfrey.

MARCEAU MARCEAU

The French mime artist delighted global audiences for more than 60 years, especially as his stage persona, Bip the Clown. But as a teenager - named Marcel Mangel - from a Jewish family, he had to live in hiding when France was occupied. Taking the name Marceau, he joined the Resistance and helped smuggle Jewish children into Switzerland, using his natural acting skills to entertain and keep them safe. After Paris was liberated, he joined the French Army, before he could eventually enrol in drama school.

This quote made Louis a popular figure on recruitment posters

JD SALINGER

The young American was trying to make it as a writer when he was drafted into the US Army in 1942. He would carry pages of what became his iconic novel *The Catcher in the Rye* into combat – as he stepped on Utah Beach on D-Day and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. Able to speak French and German, Salinger was assigned

to counter-intelligence, where he interrogated POWs and took part in the liberation of Dachau concentration camp. As well as being hospitalised with 'combat stress reaction', his experiences had a profound effect on him and his writing.

Salinger wrote throughout the war, and was later published



JOE LOUIS

The world heavyweight boxing champ Joe Louis became a vital publicity asset by joining a segregated cavalry unit. He boxed in charity matches to raise funds and was used in recruitment campaigns. He was still subjected to racial abuse, however. When asked about segregation in the army, he said: "Lots of things wrong with America, but Hitler ain't going to fix them."



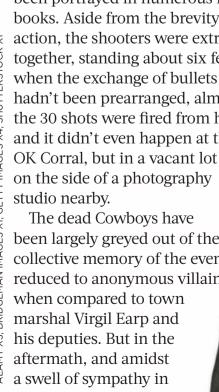
So many celebs and future-celebs served in WWII – who did we miss out?

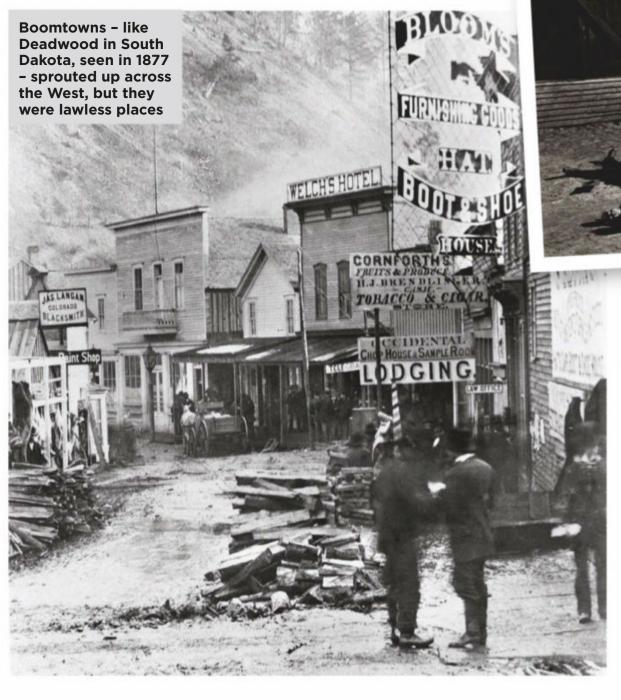
Email: editor@historyrevealed.com

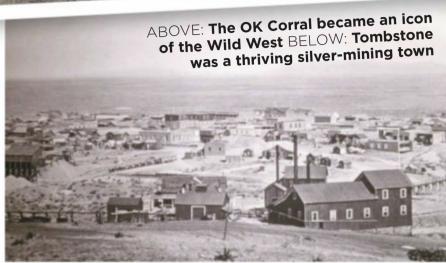




Tales of a lawless frontier are ingrained in American culture, but, as Pat Kinsella explores, the West had to be tamed







The dead Cowboys were buried in Boot Hill, with

he most famous shootout in the history of the Wild West the gunfight at the OK Corral in Tombstone, Arizona lasted just 30 seconds. In that half-a-minute of mayhem and murder at around 3pm on 26 October 1881, three outlaws from a gang known as the 'Cowboys' were shot dead when they faced off against the Earp brothers and their friend Doc Holliday.

That the brief and bloody shooting happened isn't in doubt. But the real gunfight little resembled the way it has been portrayed in numerous films and books. Aside from the brevity of the action, the shooters were extremely close together, standing about six feet apart when the exchange of bullets began. It hadn't been prearranged, almost all of the 30 shots were fired from handguns, and it didn't even happen at the

studio nearby. The dead Cowboys have been largely greyed out of the collective memory of the event, reduced to anonymous villains when compared to town marshal Virgil Earp and his deputies. But in the aftermath, and amidst

Tombstone for the dead, the Earps and Holliday were arrested on charges of murdering brothers Tom and Frank McLaury and 19-year-old Billy Clanton as they tried to surrender. They were put on trial and spent time behind bars before ultimately being acquitted.

In the grand scheme of things, the gunfight was a minor, albeit lethal, scuffle. It was borne from a simmering feud involving ageold themes – jealousy, power, money, mistrust and machismo - which, in the febrile booze-and bullet-filled atmosphere of the time, got out of hand. That year, 1881, was one of the wildest 12 months in the American Old West, at least as big-name shootouts go. Three months before the OK Corral, on 14 July,

Sheriff Pat Garret gunned down Billy the Kid, while earlier, in April, the 'Four Dead in Five Seconds Gunfight' had taken place in the infamously lawless town of El Paso, Texas.

WILD STORIES

The Wild West was being mythologised before the era even ended, with gunslinging cowboys and

Mexico of Pat Garrett, the famed lawman who killed Billy the Kid

A statue in New

LEFT: Wyatt Earp held roles as a lawman and was arrested multiple times - such was the state of law and order in the West

lawmen representing freedom and tough justice; living the original American Dream. The gunfight at the OK Corral didn't became widely known until 1931,

around 300 at the funeral

when Stuart N Lake published a biography of Earp. It was long after the West had been tamed. Yet for years already, 'dime westerns' - cheap and popular, pulp fiction-style booklets had been transforming the gritty, hard-bitten, weapon-wielding characters into legends.

The Earp biography inspired the classic films My Darling Clementine and Gunfight at the O.K. Corral. That was nothing unusual. In every decade since its inception, the film industry has delighted in the antics of trigger-happy cowboys, bandanna-wearing bandits, vigilante posses, and justice-serving sheriffs and marshals, which now define the Wild West.

And so, albeit belatedly, the names of Doc Holliday, Wyatt Earp and his brothers joined the like Jesse James, Billy the Kid, Butch Cassidy and the

Sundance Kid - a cast of characters who transcend the genre. Well over a century since they bit the dust, they remain familiar to multiple generations of people, many of whom know little else of the frontier. They have become icons of American culture and their acts of violence and thievery are celebrated. But have the spaghetti westerns fed us a load of baloney? These famous names were active in the 1880s, or later, when in many respects the West was not as wild.

LIFE ON THE EDGE

For large periods of the preceding 200plus years, ever since pioneers began exploring inland from the English settlement at Jamestown in Virginia, the rolling western frontier was a more dangerous place than it was towards the end of the 19th century, when many westerns are set.

There were many factors contributing to this. The huge swathes of unforgiving natural terrain and the resistance put up by aggrieved indigenous occupants of the land made any attempts at travel a serious risk. Then there was the fact that the newcomers would be transient, overwhelmingly single males, tooled up with increasingly affordable firearms bought with gold-rush cash. Typically, they were fiercely protective over what was theirs, brutalised by conflicts such as the American Civil War, and concentrated in lawless boomtowns.

Would-be settlers heading out west in wagon trains were thus vulnerable to everything from severe weather to Native American raiding parties, bandit attacks and opportunistic crime. As the colonists, immigrants and prospectors travelled with all their possessions



and whatever money and gold they owned, they made for easy targets to desperadoes, such as Jack Powers. The Irish highwayman terrorised a section of El Camino Real, a long road in California, and dominated the city of Santa Barbara in the early 1850s, until he was chased out of town by a band of vigilantes.

Such community-led justice was evident all over. Many of the frontier settlements adopted their own code of honour and methods of policing, so that when warned that gangs of outlaws were nearby, they genuinely would raise a posse to drive them away. Theft within the community would be punished harshly, and vigilantism and lynchings became commonplace.

Just behind the frontier, a unique culture evolved around the cattle industry. The term 'cowboy' back then was considered derogatory as it was associated with criminality, so honest men working with cattle were called herders. It was a rough and ready life, which could easily see them embroiled Some men – including Billy the Kid, who was never known as a thief and killed more men in self-defence than out of malice - became outlaws simply by backing the wrong side or getting in with the wrong people.

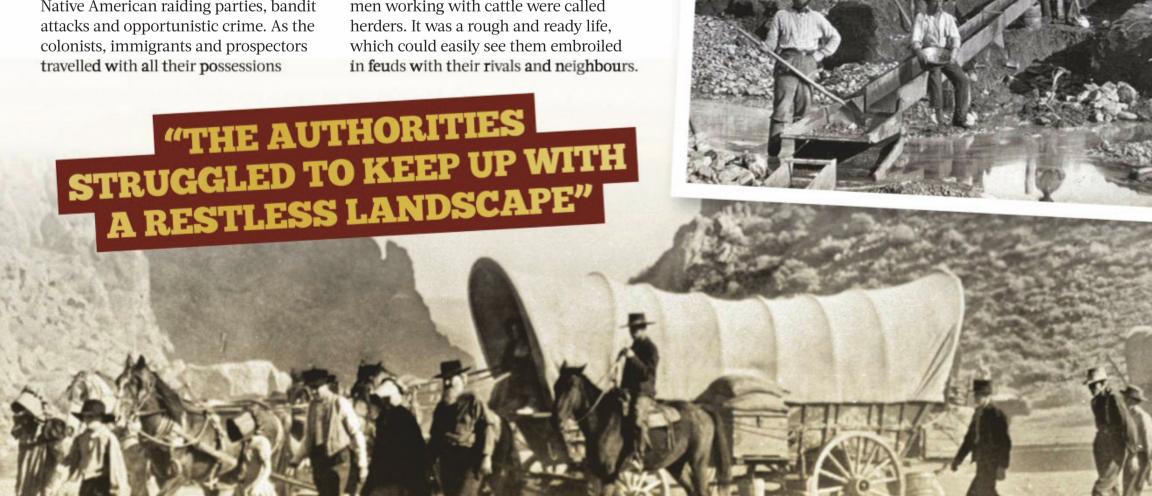
GOLD AND WAR

For much of the era, official law and order was almost entirely absent as authorities struggled to keep up with a restless and ever-expanding landscape. Things only got worse when a carpenter named James W Marshall struck gold at Sutter's Mill on 24 January 1848. In the California Gold Rush that followed, hundreds of thousands of (mostly) men from all over the world arrived in the hope of getting rich. This created a social situation where the only recreational outlets were brothels, saloons and gaming houses. Mexican laws no longer applied in the embryonic state, and American rules were loose – with few lawmen to enforce them.

The American Civil War (1861-65) had a major impact on the West too. While predominantly fought in the east, it left young communities splintered and spat out a generation of experienced

A group of cattle herders in late 19th-century Texas. The term 'cowboy' was associated with being an outlaw

BELOW: The influx of gold miners changed California forever **BOTTOM: People** risked all they had heading west by wagon





killers, heavily armed and desensitised to violence. Once the war was over, some of these men, among them Jesse James and his brother Frank, put their skills to work robbing banks.

ON THE RAILS

For the rise in lawlessness, however, the late 1860s also saw an explosion of investment in the West. Just four years after Civil War hostilities had ended, the 'golden spike' was hammered home at Promontory Summit, Utah, which symbolically connected two rail tracks, Central Pacific and Union Pacific, to create the First Transcontinental Railroad. Several bridges had to be built before this Atlantic–Pacific line was

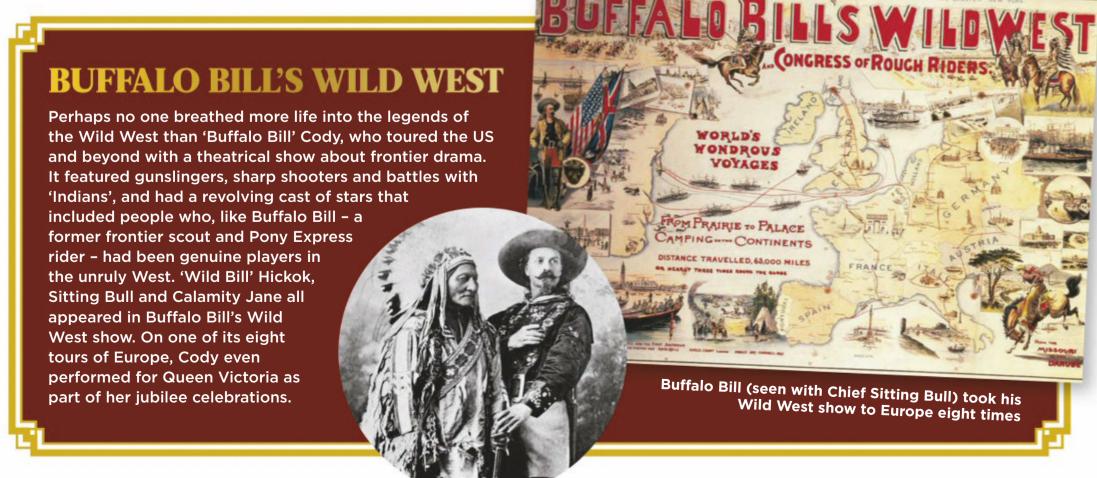
truly operational, but by the end of the 1870s, travel across the breadth of the expanding United States had become relatively easy.

The journey took a matter of days on a train, compared to weeks or even months by wagon – and that came with the threat of attack at any moment. Migration went up enormously, with many women and young families among the new arrivals, and goods and resources could be transported coast-to-coast like never before, which fuelled the economy of the West.

Yet during the laying of the track, the rail companies decimated wild bison numbers on the plains, employing men like William A buffalo hunt, painted on moose skin by the Shoshone tribe. Buffalo numbers plummeted and Native Americans were forced to reservations in the name of Western progress

Frederick 'Buffalo Bill' Cody, to hunt them by the thousand. Ostensibly this was to provide meat for the rail workers or remove the threat the large animals posed to trains, but the practice removed a chief source of food and clothing for the Native American populations. Simultaneously, the government forced tribes onto reservations.

The railroad heralded major changes
– so much so that some historians
have argued its completion marks the
beginning of the end of the true Wild
West – but there were still opportunities
for outlaws. Huge expanses of land
meant they could easily disappear



by heading through remote passes or into the badlands to hide out. Famously, the Hole-in-the-Wall pass in the Big Horn Mountains of Johnson County, Wyoming, was used by gangs throughout the era, including by Butch Cassidy's Wild Bunch, and was never penetrated by lawmen.

For most outlaws, though, their crimes were petty and opportunistic, driven by drink, gold fever and an absence of controlling factors, such as family and effective authority.

POSSES AND PINKS

The state of law enforcement in California, where the population and crime rate had risen rapidly after the gold rush, led to the creation of the San Francisco Committee of Vigilance in 1851. The 700-strong citizen mob dealt with alleged indiscretions immediately, passing judgment on suspected criminals without trial and dishing out justice, including death by hanging and shooting. Similar committees sprouted up in Texas and elsewhere, and many were active for decades.

Private agencies assumed the role of law enforcers and property protectors too. The best-known of these was the Pinkerton National Detective Agency, established by Scotsman Allan Pinkerton, a pioneering detective and spy. He had been appointed Chicago's first detective in 1849 then launched the North-Western Police Agency, which became the Pinkertons.

In the mid 1850s, Pinkerton was engaged by the Illinois Central Railroad to protect their trains. It was after solving a number of robberies that he met the company's lawyer, one Abraham Lincoln. Once elected president and with the American Civil War clouds gathering, Lincoln chose Pinkerton to head his personal security and run the Union Intelligence Service (precursor to the US Secret Service). It proved to be a wise move, as Pinkerton successfully saved Lincoln's life by foiling a planned assassination attempt as the president travelled to his inauguration.

After the war, Pinkerton established a private law-enforcement agency in the West, where gangs were running amok, robbing banks and trains. His agents – known derisively as 'Pinks' by their prey – were unrestrained by state borders in

"PINKERTON SAVED ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S

LIFE ... LATER, HIS

GENCY RELENTLESSLY

HOUNDED OUTLAWS" MAIN: Allan Pinkerton (*left*) with US President Abraham Lincoln in 1862 TOP: The seal of the San Francisco Committee of Vigilance their relentless hounding of

outlaws, from the Reno Gang to the Wild Bunch. They chased Butch and Sundance right down into South America, but Pinkerton famously failed to catch Jesse James.

DRAW YOUR GUN

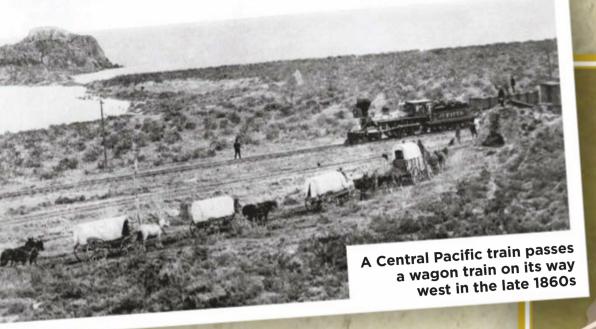
Despite vigilante groups and the pursuit of the Pinkertons, some settlements were notorious as 'outlaw towns'. Yet as time went on, even the wildest started introducing some rules. Tombstone, Dodge City and Deadwood were some of the places that banned the carrying of concealed weapons by civilians within town limits. There were later prohibitions on the open carrying of guns too, so cowboys couldn't necessarily swagger the streets and drink

Gunslinger 'Wild Bill' Hickok died in 1876 when shot from behind as he played poker in saloons with six-shooters hanging at their hips.

That didn't stop gunfights

taking place, of course. The first recorded quick-draw duel was between 'Wild Bill' Hickok and Davis Tutt in 1865, fought in the town square of Springfield, Missouri. There was bad blood between the former friends over a woman, which worsened until a duel was called over a gambling debt. Unlike portrayals of such fights in westerns, the men stood sideways to present a smaller target and about 70 metres apart, before drawing their guns and shooting. Tutt missed – Wild Bill's bullet pierced his opponent's heart.

Hickok was arrested two days after the duel and tried for murder, but the



WILCOX, WYOMING 2 JUNE 1899

A Union Pacific train is robbed, thought to be the work of Butch Cassidy's Wild Bunch.

IDAHO

UTAH

WASHINGTON

EVADA

OREGON

rk of Butch Cassidy's Id Bunch.

WYOMNG

COLORA

NEW MEXICO

mannan manan m



THE WEST'S FLUID FRONTIER

From the early 17th century, when British colonists first laid down roots on the east coast of the New World, the wide western horizon beckoned and teased with promise. Over the next three centuries, hunters, explorers and prospectors pioneered the way, battling over frozen mountain passes, across arid deserts and through hostile terrain. Not far behind were settlers and farmers in wagons – and then desperados and bandits often lurking on the trail.

The original borders of the sovereign United States were set in 1783, with the Treaty of Paris at the end of the American War of Independence. The new nation was bounded by Canada to the north, Florida to the south and the mighty Mississippi River to the west, but this last line was fluid and constantly being pushed outwards.

The territory around and beyond the western frontier was enormous, but far from empty. Native American tribes had long lived on the land and many fought back ferociously against the encroaching colonists, but they were decimated by European firearms and diseases. The survivors were gradually hounded onto reserves.

The Louisiana Purchase in 1803 added another 828,000 square miles of territory, acquired from France, which instantly doubled the size of the country. Texas joined the union in 1845 and Mexico ceded California and huge swathes of other future states to their rapidly expanding northern neighbour in 1848 and 1853. The American Civil War interrupted US expansion, but after the hostilities ended a railroad was laid right across the continent, making coast-to-coast transportation and travel easier, quicker and safer.

In 1890, the US Census declared there was no longer a clear line of advancing settlement. Manifest Destiny – the belief that Christian settlers were divinely ordained to control the whole of North America – seemed fulfilled. The era of the Wild West was effectively over, if not in American popular culture.

TOMBSTONE, ARIZONA 26 OCTOBER 1881

The Earp brother and Doc Holiday take on the 'Cowboys' in the gunfight at the OK Corral.

ALASKA

"THE WIDE WESTERN HORIZON BECKONED AND TEASED WITH PROMISE"

ARIZONA

HOW THE WEST WAS WON

14 MAY 1607 Jamestown, Virginia

The first permanent English settlement in North America is founded by the Virginia

Company of London.
It very nearly fails,
but still gives
the English a
foothold
in the
New World.

MARCH 1775 Appalachian Mountains

Frontiersman Daniel Boone blazes the Wilderness Road from North Carolina and Tennessee through Cumberland Gap, establishing a settlement west of the Appalachians.

NOVEMBER 1805 Astoria, Oregon

The Lewis and Clark Expedition reaches the shores of the Pacific Ocean on the west coast, at the mouth of the Columbia River, having traversed through the Continental Divide.

OCTOBER 1812 Wyoming

Scottish fur trader Robert Stuart and a small party discovers the South Pass through the central Rocky Mountains. It becomes the main conduit for the 2,000-mile Oregon Trail wagon route.

1826-28 California

In his expeditions, Jedediah Strong Smith becomes the first white man to travel overland to California and return, going from the Great Salt Lake, across the Colorado River and the Mojave Desert.

24 JANUARY 1848 Coloma, California

While working on a mill, carpenter James W Marshall finds gold in the American River, sparking the California Gold Rush.

8 JANUARY 1863 Sacramento, California

A groundbreaking ceremony marks the start of construction on the Central Pacific Railroad, which runs eastward. The Union Pacific Railroad is simultaneously built heading to the West.

10 MAY 1869 Promontory, Utah

The two railroads are officially joined - forming the First Transcontinental Railroad - when a symbolic 'golden spike' is driven home on the tracks.

4 JUNE 1876 San Francisco, California

The Transcontinental Express pulls into San Francisco, just 83 hours and 39 minutes after leaving New York. The first true Atlantic-Pacific train journey, it makes the West feel closer to the east coast.

WANTED -

BILLY THE KID

William H Bonney, who also went by the name Henry McCarty - but will always be best remembered as Billy the Kid - had a short career as an outlaw. By the time of his death at the age of 21, he is reputed to have killed eight men.

He had become a fugitive after shooting dead a blacksmith who had been bullying him in a bar fight. Then after some cattle rustling, he took part in a violent feud known as the Lincoln County War in New Mexico, in which he sided and fought with a gang called the Regulators. Accused and later convicted of killing Lincoln County sheriff William J Brady during the conflict, the Kid remained at large for some time and famously shot and killed Joe Grant at Hargrove's Saloon in Fort Sumner, New Mexico. Grant had allegedly come after him, but after the Kid asked to admire his would-be assassin's gun and surreptitiously ensured it wouldn't fire, he shot him first.

Sheriff Pat Garrett captured the Kid in December 1880. He was sentenced to death, only to escape, killing both of his guards in the process, and remain on the run for two months until Garrett tracked him down again at Fort Sumner. The Kid died on 14 July 1881 in a shootout with the sheriff, who then collected the bounty of \$500. Garrett later wrote a book called *The Authentic Life of Billy, the Kid*.

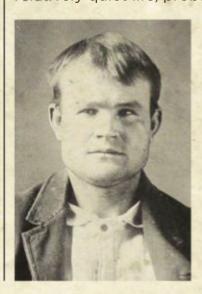
JESSE JAMES

Jesse James and his brother Frank were graduates of the Quantrill's Raiders in the American Civil War, a pro-Confederate militia responsible for various atrocities. After the war, the brothers turned to violent crime and were among the most feared outlaws in the south from the 1860s to 1882. His James-Younger Gang committed more than 20 bank and train robberies, and stole an estimated total of \$200,000. There is no evidence of them distributing wealth, but they were popular and even celebrities of the day. Communities in Missouri protected them despite the allure of huge bounties. Ruthless killers, the gang was responsible for the murders of multiple innocent civilians - infamously, Jesse shot a banker in the heart

at close range on
7 December 1869
- and two Pinkerton
operatives. The
agency's inability
to take down the
James brothers
was its biggest
failure. Jesse was
eventually shot in
the back on 3 April
1882 by a new
recruit to his gang,
Robert 'Bob' Ford.

BUTCH CASSIDY

Robert LeRoy Parker, better known as Butch Cassidy, was born in 1866 in Beaver, Utah, the eldest of 13 children in a Mormon English immigrant family. He began a life of crime by stealing a pair of jeans, and quickly moved to larger-scale robberies. Around 1896, Butch formed the Wild Bunch along with a group of his friends. He would go on to recruit Harry Alonzo Longabaugh - the Sundance Kid. The gang enjoyed immense success with train robberies, until they came to the attention of the Pinkerton Agency. In 1901, Butch fled to South America with Sundance, travelling to Argentina and ultimately on to Chile and Bolivia. They led a relatively quiet life, probably punctuated by



a couple of bank
jobs, but both are
believed to have
been killed in a
shootout with
police in November
1908, after robbing
a courier carrying
the payroll for a
silver mine. During
his entire criminal
career, Butch
claimed never to
have killed anyone.

THE SUNDANCE KID

Born into a Baptist family in Pennsylvania in 1867, Harry Alonzo Longabaugh worked as a ranch hand and drover until he began a life of crime by stealing a horse. He took the name Sundance after the town where he was jailed for the crime – his only time behind bars. After joining Butch Cassidy's Wild



Bunch in 1896, his career took off with audacious robberies. Along with long-term partner, Etta Place, and Cassidy, he was pursued to South America by Pinkerton agents. He probably died alongside Cassidy in Bolivia in November 1908.





judge advised the jury that, while he was undoubtedly guilty of manslaughter, they could apply the unwritten law of the 'fair fight'. He was acquitted and later worked in Kansas as marshal of Hays, sheriff of Ellis County and then city marshal of Abilene. Hickok would be involved in many more fatal gunfights while a lawman until he was eventually relieved of his duties after accidentally shooting dead one of his deputies.

ROGUE LAWMEN

Often, the only discernible difference between an enforcer of the law and a gun-toting outlaw was the star on their chest. It needed grit in the guts to wear that badge, plus a flexible attitude to due process.

On 11 April 1881, the noted gunslinger Dallas Stoudenmire was sworn in as El Paso's sixth town marshal in eight months, and three days later, he was caught up in the 'Four Dead in Five Seconds Gunfight'. With a hail of bullets, he caused three of the fatalities. Then, during a botched attempt at revenge, Stoudenmire shot the testicles off his would-be assassin and watched as he bled to death. Such a life could only end one way – on 18 September 1882, he was shot by the Manning brothers.

Another feared gunman, 'Longhair Jim' Courtright, carved out a successful career as a lawman in Fort Worth, Texas, halving the murder rate (mostly by shooting repeat offenders). But he notoriously used his badge and deadly reputation to extort money from business owners, a practice that came to an abrupt end when Luke Short killed him in 1887.

Both Short and Courtright were friendly with Wyatt Earp, a rambling gambling character who worked for a while as a lawman in Dodge City, before moving to Texas. There, his life was saved by a cowboy dentist named John 'Doc' Holliday and the two became close. In 1879, Earp moved to the silvermining boomtown of Tombstone with his brothers James, Morgan and Virgil, who was city marshal and Deputy US Marshal. A little under two years on, their conflict with the Cowboys spilled over in that most famous of gunfights at the OK Corral.

That was not the end of the feud, though. Surviving members of the Cowboys gang ambushed Virgil and Morgan, maiming the former and killing the latter. In response, Wyatt, despite now being a Deputy US Marshal after taking over from his injured brother, decided to take the law into his own

Doc Holliday lived through shootouts and arrests, dying in 1887 after years of suffering from tuberculosis

vendetta ride resulted in the deaths of four outlaws, and arrest warrants being issued for the rogue lawmen.

END CREDITS

Perhaps the gunfight at the OK Corral and its violent aftermath have been so celebrated because the saga not only epitomised many elements of the Wild West, but came at a time when the era was coming to an end.

Soon afterwards, policing became more professional in the western states, as encapsulated by the careers of a trio of legendary lawmen known as the 'Three Guardsmen': Deputy US Marshals Bill Tilghman, Chris Madsen and Heck Thomas.

Between 1889 and the turn of the century, they effectively cleaned up the Indian Territories and future state of Oklahoma. They pursued the Dalton and Doolin gangs, which ended in the deaths of Bill Doolin, 'Dynamite Dan' Clifton, Richard 'Little Dick' West and William 'Little Bill' Raidler. And they were credited with the arrest of more than 300 outlaws within a decade, leaving the West a place much less wild. •

GET HOOKED



LISTEN

Melvyn Bragg explores the myths and realities of the American West on *In Our Time*, found on the Radio 4 archive at www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00548gg

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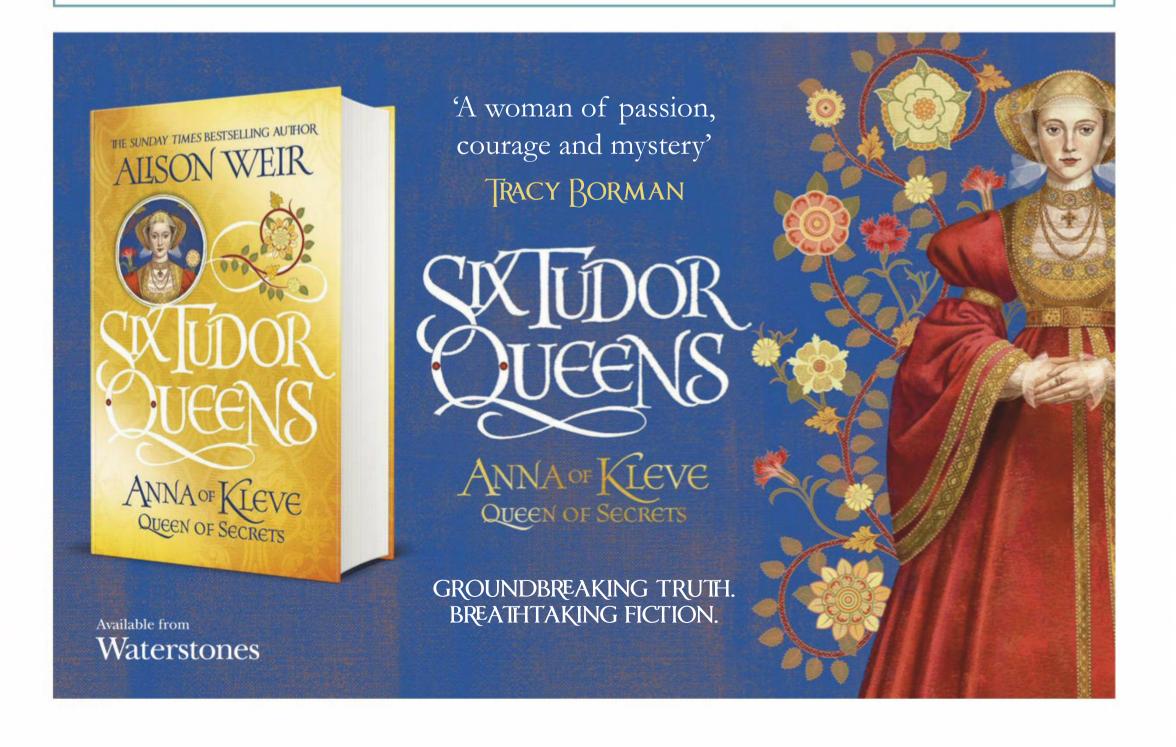
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Tessa Dunlop, historian on the BBC Two series *Coast*, shines a light on the secret and undervalued work of the women of Bletchley Park, without whom the codebreaking successes of World War II could not have happened

FEMALE CODEBREAKERS



LEFT: Keira Knightly stars in *The Imitation Game* as Joan Clarke, a rare female codebreaker

MAIN: Three quarters of the workforce at Bletchley were women, carrying out repetitive but crucial tasks

his year is the 100th anniversary of GCHQ, once called the Government Code and Cipher School (GC&CS) and the brainchild behind one of World War II's most famous institutions: Bletchley Park in Buckinghamshire.

During the war, Bletchley depended on the heft of a predominantly female workforce yet Joan Clarke, the codebreaking fiancée of Alan Turing (immortalised by Keira Knightley in the 2014 film *The Imitation Game*) is one of Bletchley's very few famous woman. Britain's codebreaking operation has been dominated by a male narrative - a star-studded cast of 20thcentury brain boxes, led by mathematician Alan Turing. His outstanding role in the creation of the bombe machine, an electromechanical testing device essential for unravelling German Enigma encoded messages, was hugely significant. It is a feat perhaps only rivalled by that of Tommy Flowers, the engineer who designed the even more advanced Colossus, the world's first programmable computer.

The need to outsmart one's enemy frequently led to ground-breaking innovations during World War II, yet the women who worked at Bletchley have often been overlooked in this story because, with the exception of three or four female cryptanalysts, the vast majority of top-end codebreakers during the war were men. The story of how girl power – often school-girl power – turned what began as an eccentric experiment into the world's most impressive codebreaking factory is less well known, but no less important.

A QUESTION OF TRUST

In 1938, with war on the horizon, GC&CS temporarily moved out of London, to avoid bombing raids, but by August 1939, its secret home in Bletchley Park had become permanent. Initially, this fledging operation was staffed by just 186 people. 'Men of a professor type', particularly mathematicians were targeted, with early recruits including Turing, Gordon Welchman and Alfred Dillwyn Knox. Their work, however, was supported by an expanding team of chiefly civilian women. Perhaps inevitably at the beginning of the war, Establishment Britain recruited from their own

when it came to Bletchley's secret operations.
The German military must never know that
Britain was in the process of achieving what
Hitler believed to be impossible – the decoding
of Enigma. It was imperative that those

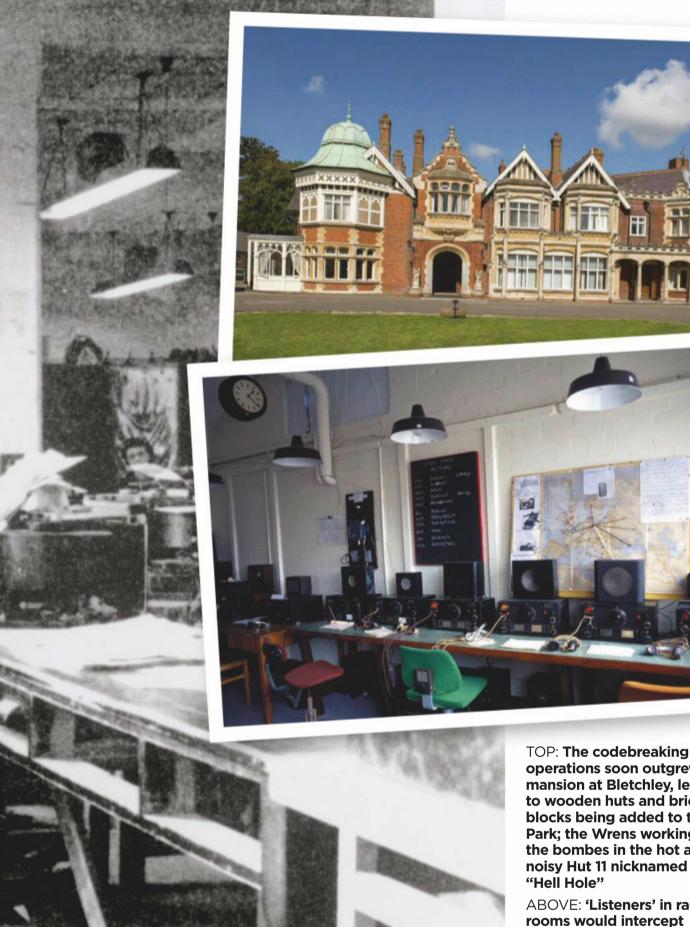
Alan Turing is rightly praised for his work breaking Enigma, but codebreaking operations relied on a huge female workforce fo

quiet, and from kinship springs trust. Many of the first women at Bletchley Park came from ruling-class families who knew each other.

Lady Jean was a 19-year-old Scottish aristocrat and debutante. She had been tipped off about a "hush, hush

mission at Bletchley Park" by her father's friend, Lord Mountbatten.
Actress Pamela Rose (née
Gibson), received a letter from an "interfering godmother". If girls' education was rarely a priority between the wars, an upper-class focus on being accomplished and attending foreign finishing schools certainly had its advantages. Pamela's understanding of German, for

example, was deemed to be useful for filing decrypted messages.



operations soon outgrew the mansion at Bletchley, leading to wooden huts and brick blocks being added to the Park; the Wrens working on the bombes in the hot and noisy Hut 11 nicknamed it the

ABOVE: 'Listeners' in radio rooms would intercept **German communications and** send them on to 'Station X', as Bletchley was known

"Bletchley could not operate without the 'traffic' of German messages, intercepted by the Y Service"

For that work she sacrificed her first role on the West End.

From the outset, Bletchley, aka Station X, could not operate without the constant 'traffic' of German Enigma messages. This came from the Y Service, Bletchley's vital other half, with its numerous listening stations intercepting German radio communications. Among the staff of the Y Service were members of the Women's Royal Naval Service, or 'Wrens'. One of these was 18-year-old Pat Davies (née Owtram). Assigned as a Special Duties Linguist after an intense training course, her first post on a "highly secret

mission" was at Withernsea, Yorkshire. "As soon as one of the German ships came up, you wrote down exactly what you heard," she later recalled.

A lot of what Pat remembers was the meaningless clumps of letters. "Anton, Bertha, Cesar... I always thought it was odd hearing the war all the time from the German side. The whole thing would be written down and then one of us would call Station X. I had no idea what Station X was." Pat was one of many secret 'listeners', whose precious encoded data was being sent to the rapidly expanding team at Bletchley.

PAMELA ROSE

(née Gibson)

Still alive at the time of writing and thriving at 101, Pamela's war work began with her recruitment to the indexing department of Hut 4. She was one of the very few examples of women being promoted from "humdrum roles". Pamela became head of Naval Indexing, a section that has subsequently been hailed as a precursor of the Information Age. Co-ordinating vital fact-finding forays long before the advent of the microchip, she remains modest about her wartime achievements. "I think I was promoted because I couldn't type! Yes I suppose most of the Heads of

Sections meetings were with men. I was given my own room and had some responsibility but I missed the girls' chatter."



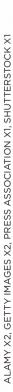
PAT DAVIES

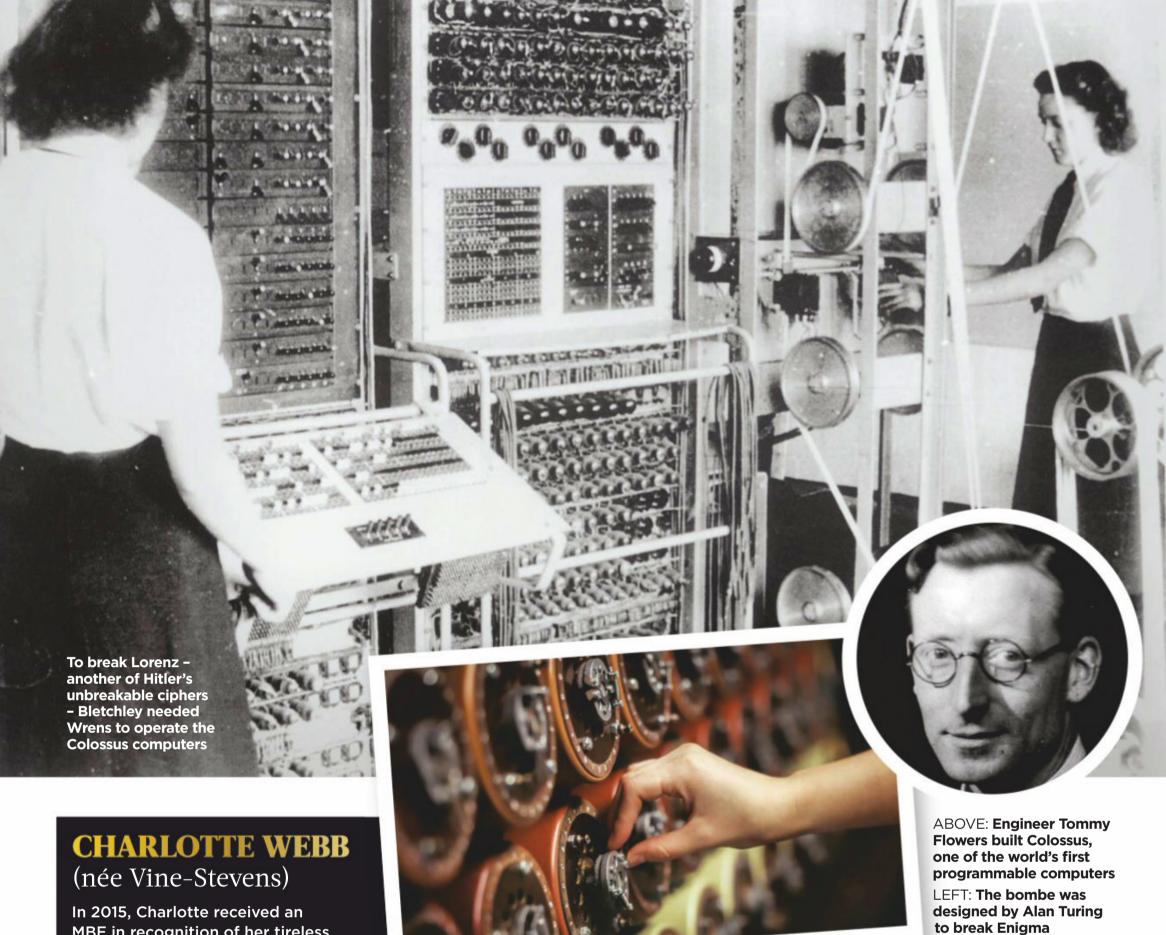
(née Owtram)

While she was not based at Bletchley, Pat was a Wren in the Y Service, which saw her move between three English coastal locations. Her final listening post was Abbot's Cliff in Kent. At the age of 95, Pat remains a tireless champion of her secret war work: lectures, theatre tours, television appearances, she uses any means available to explain her time at the coal face of Britain's massive interception mission. "Doing this work at an early age meant my life went down a totally different track. Before the war, my parents said 'we can't afford to send you to university', but in the end I went to three of the very top ones." Pat studied at St And

Oxford and Harvard, before she embarked on a stellar media career as a producer in the then-new medium of

television.





MBE in recognition of her tireless campaigning and support of Bletchley Park Trust, the museum that has enlightened millions about the work done in secret by thousands of men and women. The award is the pinnacle of an impressive CV. As a reward for a meticulous performance at Bletchley over three years, Charlotte was transferred in 1944 to a new building in the US: the Pentagon. "I was staggered by the invitation. Me? A humble staff sergeant." Despite teething problems, cross pollination between British and American codebreakers had increased since 1942. "I was the only ATS

(Auxiliary Territorial Service) girl in the whole building!
I did the same job I left behind at the Park.
I suppose I was a natural administrator."

In late 1941, for the first time in British history, conscription for women was introduced. By then Bletchley was already reliant on a massive female workforce, like so many other wartime institutions. A group of the original cryptanalysts had sent a stern missive that October to Winston Churchill saying they did not have sufficient resources and staff, which saw the prime minister instantly and dramatically scale up operations. It would keep growing so that by 1944, Bletchley employed 8,743 workers, three-quarters of whom were women.

Although 'posh' civilian girls were first to arrive, the sheer numbers required saw the majority of staff being recruited by

the military services. Among them was Charlotte Webb (née Vine-Stevens), who was 19 when she was selected from her Auxiliary Territorial Service training camp. Shifts took place in a small room in the Bletchley mansion. "I worked on the card index, putting things into date order and registering them under their call signs. Nothing was in clear language. It was all in groups of letters or figures on sheets of paper – masses of them," says Charlotte. Her job was not to understand, but to register every message passing across her desk.

LEARN TO LOVE THE BOMBE

It was Turing's development of the bombe that radically increased the rate at which Enigma could be read. By 1944, a force of 1,676 Wrens were dutifully tending more than 200 bombes – described as having the appearance of "great metal bookcases" – which were harvesting up to 18,000 Enigma messages daily. Alongside Pat's interceptions and Charlotte's data processing came Wren Ruth Bourne (née Henry) mechanical vigilance as another component on the codebreaking conveyor belt. Her job was to operate one of the bombes. Churning with around 100 rotating drums, 12 miles of wire and



LEFT: The Wrens of C watch, who operated Colossus; Joanna is circled

BELOW: Posters like this warned civilians of the risks of careless talk but, for those at Bletchley, secrecy was vital to victory

"Bombe operator Ruth was told that if she broke her oath of secrecy, she would go to prison 'at the least""

one million soldered connections, it made for an intimidating prospect, but what Ruth thought of her work was irrelevant. "Nice girls do what they are told," she explains.

The bombe was just the first of the industrial sized behemoths that transformed life at the Park. Another Wren, Joanna Chorley (née Stradling), worked in the Newmanry, a section tasked with reading the highly sophisticated 'Fish' communications sent using the Lorenz cipher between Hitler and his high command. Up to a hundred times longer than Enigma, Fish messages were invaluable. So much so that a technological whopper was born to analyse their contents: Colossus.

Joanna remembers her first meeting with the machine, which was the size of a room: "It was ticking away, and the tapes were going around and all the valves, and I thought what an amazing machine. Like magic and science combined!" Joanna had fallen in love with the world's first electronic computer. "It's a bit silly really isn't it? But I did love the beast," she recalled.

REPETITION AND REWARD

For many of the Bletchley Girls, their roles were compartmentalised and prioritised accuracy, stamina and occasionally a foreign language. Lady Jean was disappointed with her job. Her shift work, designed to make up for a short fall

of bombe machines, was frustratingly repetitive. "I marked letters in German messages, then perforated those same marks and compared one message on top of another. If three holes were on the top of three other marked ones, these were put through the hatch to the next room. Doing this for a year sent me nearly crazy."

Exceptional moments were keenly savoured. Rozanne Colchester (née Medhurst) was a teenager who could speak Italian courtesy of a childhood spent in Rome. Her basic decoding was formulaic and the information revealed fairly dull, but late one night "after many trials and errors I found myself faced with a message that made sense". In her small work room in Buckinghamshire, she read something no one else in the Allied forces knew - in three and a half hours, Italy's SM.79 torpedo bombers and SM.82 transport carriers would leave Tripoli and head across the Mediterranean. With the Desert War over by June 1943, the crippled Italians were making for Sicily, but thanks to Rozanne they never reached their destination. The information she read was radioed to the RAF in North Africa. "Very soon our aeroplanes were in the air and all the Italian aircraft were shot down!"

Few experienced such stand-out moments, but all of the women remember the onus placed on secrecy. No one could forget their introduction to the Official Secrets Act.

Charlotte recalls a vast document she was forced to read on the spot. Ruth was told if she broke her oath of secrecy, she would go to prison "at the very least". Joanna was under no illusions, either: "We knew damn well what will happen if we blab. It will kill people. We knew we couldn't talk for a reason."

You never know who's on the wires!

BE CAREFUL

WHAT YOU SAY

During his only visit to the Park in 1941, Churchill described Bletchley as "the goose that laid the golden egg but never cackled". And everyone kept their secrets for more than 30 years. Bletchley's impact on the war is now common knowledge, but before the 1970s some Bletchley Girls weren't even aware they had been involved in codebreaking. Pat was one of them. "It was surprising to hear that Bletchley had achieved such great things," she says, "because at the time we never got any feedback. We didn't know how important we had been." •

GET HOOKED

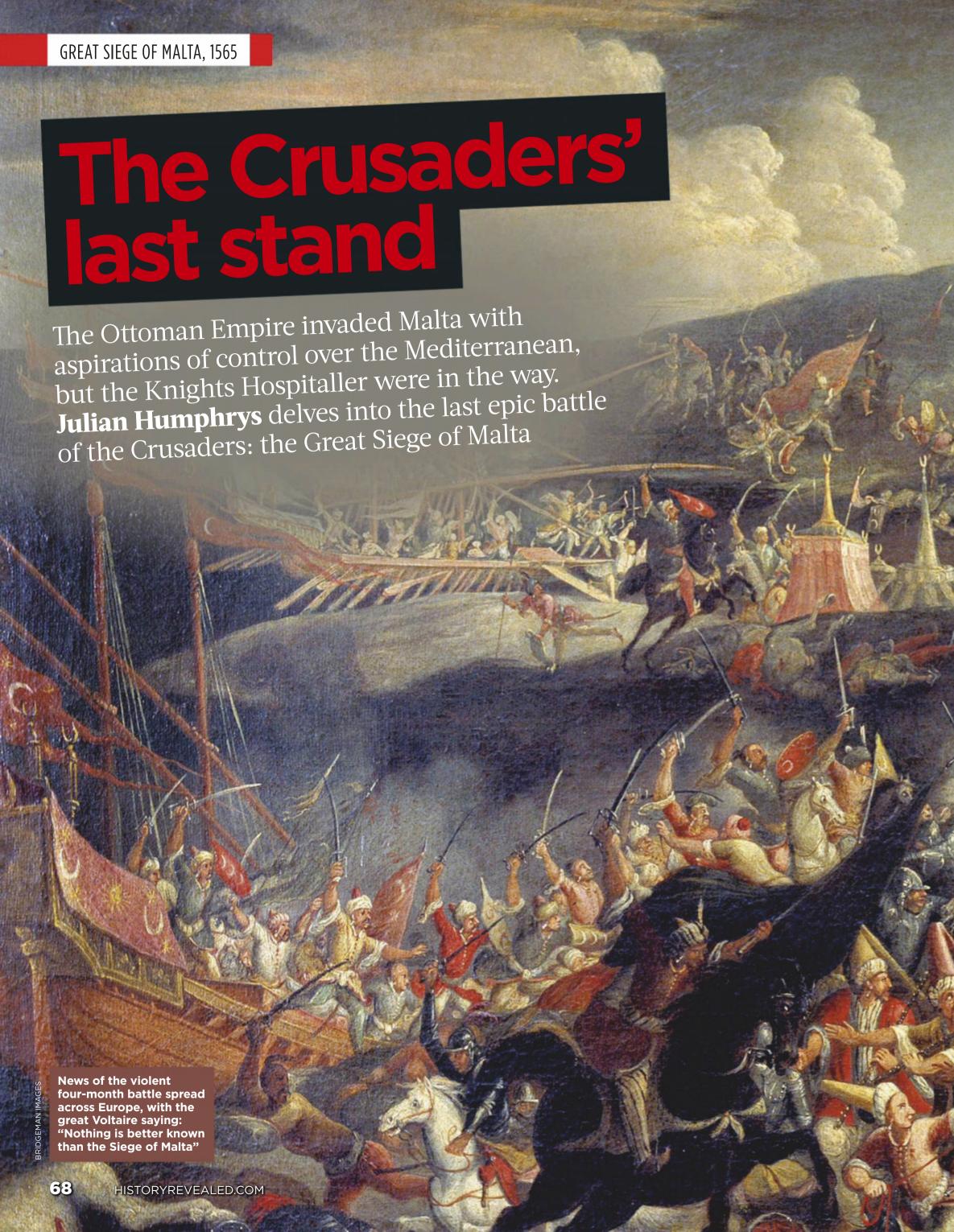


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The Bletchley Girls by Tessa Dunlop (Hodder & Stoughton, 2015)

LISTEN

Tessa Dunlop further explores these women's stories on *The Rietchlov Cirls* on The Bletchley Girls, available on the Radio 4 archive at www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b062ktlf





n the eyes of many in Christian Europe, Suleiman the Magnificent must have seemed unstoppable. In the 45 years since he had succeeded his father as Sultan of the Ottoman Empire, he had undertaken major campaigns of expansion, capturing the Christian stronghold of Belgrade, driving the Knights Hospitaller from their base in Rhodes, defeating the Hungarians, and occupying much of North Africa and the Middle East.

Then in 1560, his success on land was joined by triumph at sea when his navy surprised a Christian fleet at Djerba, off Tunisia, and captured or destroyed half its ships. The Battle of Djerba saw the Ottomans at the peak of their naval powers in the Mediterranean. Their next target was Malta.

Sited in the narrow sea lane between Italy and the North African coast, the largely barren island was of key strategic significance. The Ottomans knew that if they were going to turn their naval dominance into total control of the Western Mediterranean, they needed to capture Malta first. Suleiman had another reason for wanting to conquer the island too. After being

The Ottomans believed the invasion would be quick; they were wrong

Fort St Elmo withstood a month-long siege, but at a heavy price

Dragut, the 'Drawn Sword of Islam', died in the fighting

THE KNIGHTS OF SAINT JOHN

Founded in the 11th century, the Order of Knights of the Hospital of Saint John was one of the most important religious and military orders of the crusading period. Its warrior monks played a vital role in the defence of the Christian kingdom established in the Holy Land following the capture of Jerusalem in 1099. When Acre, the last major Christian stronghold in the Holy Land, fell to the Muslims in 1291, the Hospitallers took refuge on Cyprus. Twenty years later they seized the island of Rhodes and made it their headquarters. They used Rhodes as a centre of operations against the Ottomans until 1522, when they were forced off the island by Suleiman the Magnificent. The Hospitallers were homeless until 1530, when Holy Roman Emperor Charles V gave them Malta as their new base.

The Heavis II

The Hospitallers were founded to provide care for sick pilgrims in the Holy Land forced out of Rhodes in 1522, the Hospitallers had relocated there and over the years made a thorough nuisance of themselves, using their fleet of galleys to prey on Turkish shipping in search of plunder and slaves. The final straw came in the summer of 1564 when one of their commanders captured the *Sultana*, an Ottoman galleon packed with valuable goods bound for Venice, and brought it to Malta in triumph.

It was a highly provocative act – not least as the *Sultana*'s voyage had been a business venture of the Chief Eunuch, an important player in Suleiman's court.

On 18 May 1565, a massive Ottoman armada of around 200 ships, carrying an army estimated to be 40,000 strong, was spotted approaching Malta. Knowing that an invasion had been on the cards since the defeat at Djerba, the elderly Grand Master of the Hospitallers, Jean de La Valette, had prepared island defences as best he could, strengthening fortifications and summoning fellow knights to join the

about to take place. The Hospitallers had four strongholds on Malta. The ancient capital of Mdina was far inland - the small cavalry force there would go on to play a role out of all proportion to its size. To the east on Mount Sciberras was the newly constructed Fort St Elmo, which overlooked a sheltered anchorage and the entrance to the island's Grand Harbour. Then there were two peninsulas, Birgu and Senglea, jutting out into the harbour itself, each with ramparts on their landward

titanic struggle that was

Once the Ottomans had established themselves on Malta, they had to decide what to attack first. But while the defenders had just one commander, La Valette, the Ottoman leadership was less straightforward. Admiral Piyale, the mastermind of the Djerba victory, commanded the armada, but the soldiers were led by Mustafa Pasha, Suleiman's Grand Vizier. Both were advised by the 80-yearold Dragut, the most famous pirate of his age and a highly skilled commander.

side and a fort at the end.

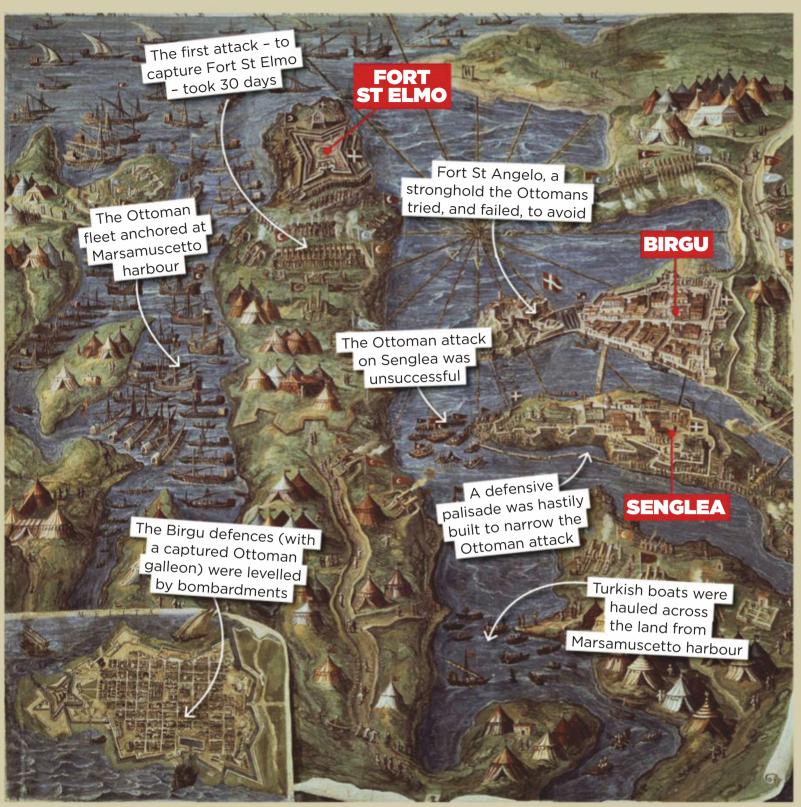
Mustafa wanted to capture
Mdina and move onto the
coastal forts, but Piyale
thought it best to use heavy
bombardment from land
and sea to take the forts
first. Eventually, Piyale's view prevailed and
the Ottomans massed their forces and a huge
number of guns against St Elmo.

EXPECT NO MERCY

La Valette had anticipated this move and increased the fort's defences. So instead of falling in a matter of days as Piyale had predicted, St Elmo held out for a month. The bombardment destroyed the fort buildings, but its defenders - both Hospitallers and local soldiers – fought on in the rubble, hurling pots of Greek Fire (an early form of napalm) into the packed ranks of advancing Turks. As casualties mounted, however, their resolve weakened and they sent a message to La Valette begging for permission to evacuate the fort. The old man calmly replied that they must hold out until a force of more reliable men arrived. Shamed into abandoning their request, the Knights returned to their posts.

Finally, on 23 June, St Elmo fell to a massed assault. The defenders expected no mercy and

THE FIGHT FOR THE COASTAL FORTS OF MALTA



"Their guns opened fire - not with cannonballs, but the heads of Turkish prisoners"

received none. Their commanders, De Guaras and De Miranda, were too badly wounded to stand so fought to the death on chairs. Other than a handful of captured Hospitallers and Maltese men who swam across the harbour, everyone in St Elmo was slaughtered. Some 1,500 defenders died, but Turkish losses were appalling – an estimated 6,000 to 8,000 killed, including old Dragut himself. Mustafa, upon hearing of the losses, looked to the powerful Fort St Angelo on the Birgu peninsula and said: "If so small a son has cost us so dear, what price shall we have to pay for so large a father?"

In an attempt to crush enemy morale, Mustafa ordered the decapitated bodies of the defenders to be nailed to mock crucifixes and pushed into

the harbour, where they would drift across the defensive positions. But if he hoped to terrify the locals into surrender, his plan backfired. It served to strengthen both the Hospitallers and Maltese to fight on. Later that day, their guns opened fire on Mustafa's men – not with cannonballs, though, but with Turkish heads. La Valette had ordered all his prisoners to be brought out of the dungeons and massacred on the ramparts.

With St Elmo in Ottoman hands, Mustafa turned his attention to the Senglea peninsula, which was less heavily defended than its neighbour Birgu. His plan was to make a simultaneous assault by both land and sea on Fort St Michael. As this meant sailing past the



guns of St Angelo, he ordered his ships to be dragged over land across the base of Mount Sciberras and floated to the west of Senglea, well away from enemy guns. Senglea was defended by a palisade of stakes and chains driven into the sea bed, while the entrance to the harbour on the eastern side was closed by a chain, but the spur at the end of the peninsula was only defended by a low embankment. That was Mustafa's target.

In July, as Turkish guns pounded the defences and troops hurled themselves heroically at the battlements, Mustafa launched his boats. Sporting a multitude of colourful flags and pennants, they were led by three boatloads of holy men reciting verses from the Koran to inspire the attackers. As they neared the shore, the chanting stopped and the holy men fell back. A hail of shot failed to stop the Ottomans pressing on. The defenders held them off – just – but then Mustafa played his trump card. He had held back ten large boats carrying 1,000 janissaries, the crack troops of the empire, and these now entered the fray.

Mustafa must have thought victory was within his grasp, but

he had overlooked one key thing. Waiting less than 200 metres away on the Birgu peninsula, immediately opposite the point where the janissaries planned to land, was a concealed gun battery at shore level. Timing his moment to perfection, the battery commander opened fire. The men in the boats never stood a chance – nine of the boats were sunk in a moment and the men either shot to pieces or tipped into the water to drown. Those that struggled to the shore were shown no mercy.

A DESPERATE FIGHT

Their plan thwarted, the Ottomans subjected the two peninsulas to what has been described as the heaviest sustained bombardment the world had seen to date. Yet the defenders held out, all the while waiting for news of the arrival of a relief force promised by Philip II of Spain. In August, Mustafa ordered an all-out attack on both Senglea and Birgu.

Led by La Valette in person, the defenders fought back desperately. No sooner had an

Ottoman regiment been driven back than another took its place. They ran short of men and ammunition, and Mustafa was on the brink of success. Then, suddenly, they retreated, having paid the price for failing to capture Mdina. A small group of Hospitallers had ridden out of the city and launched a daring raid he unguarded Ottoman camp, burning

on the unguarded Ottoman camp, burning tents and slaughtering the sick and wounded.

The attack was halted, with Mustafa believing Christian reinforcements had arrived, and the opportunity was lost. Unwilling to give up, even after several more failed assaults, he settled in for a long siege only to hear on 7 September the news he had been dreading. Reinforcements really had landed. Mustafa ordered his army to

force turned the tide

for the Hospitallers

return to their ships. But when he was told that the relief force was not as strong as feared, he saw one last chance to snatch victory. He disembarked between 9,000 and 10,000 men from his galleys and marched off to confront the relief force.

It was a terrible miscalculation. Not only was the Christian army much larger than he'd been informed, its soldiers were experienced, fresh and well fed, whereas his troops were exhausted after a four-month siege. Soon, they were fleeing back to their ships, pursued by the triumphant Christians. The Great Siege of Malta was over. Perhaps Suleiman was not as unstoppable as believed. •

THE WAR GOES ON

Following the Great Siege of Malta, Turkish naval expansion was halted, but it was only a temporary setback. The next year, the ageing Suleiman launched one last land campaign, though he died at the moment of victory at Szigetvar in southern Hungary. The Ottomans, now under Selim II, captured Cyprus, but their fleet suffered a major defeat by a Christian coalition of, among others, Spain, Venice, Genoa and the Hospitallers at Lepanto in 1571. Even so, the Ottomans recovered. Hostilities rumbled on during the 17th century. In 1683, an Ottoman army tried to capture relief force and their defeat at the hands of the Austrians at Zenta, Serbia, in 1697 finally put an end to their hopes of conquering central Europe.

GET HOOKED

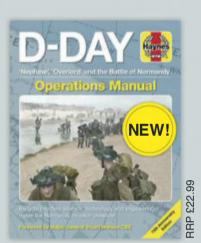


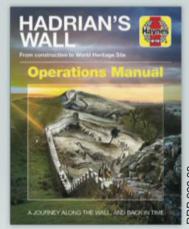
LISTEN

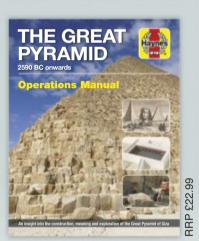
Head to the BBC Radio 4 archive for an episode of *In Our Time* where Melvyn Bragg and guests discuss the impact of the Great Siege of Malta at www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b09l1wmr











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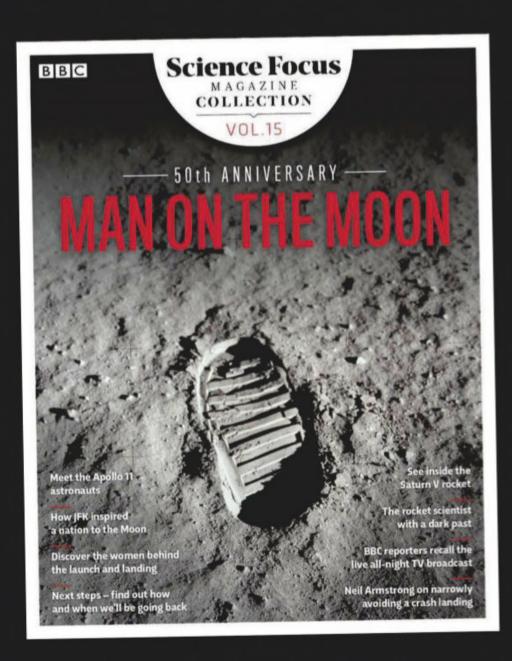
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WHY WAS WOMEN'S FOOTBALL BANNED?

With so many men off fighting in World War I, the women of Britain had a chance to fill in – not only in the workplace, but on the football pitch. The women's version of the beautiful game, which had slowly been growing in the 19th century, kicked off big time.

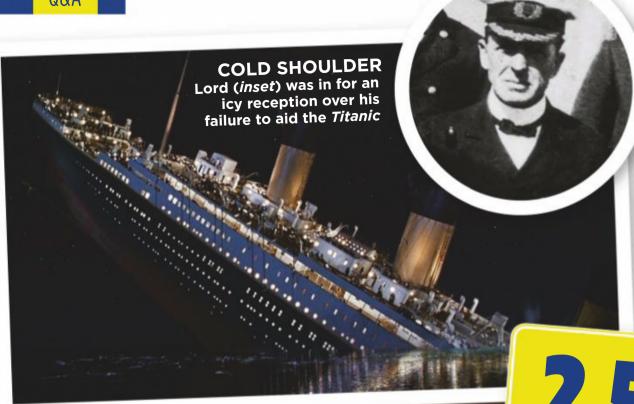
Formalised into leagues, women's football drew huge crowds, and the powerhouse team were undoubtedly Dick, Kerr Ladies. Their Boxing Day match in 1920 against St Helen's was watched at Goodison Park by 53,000 fans, with another 14,000 outside trying to cram in.

But the war had ended by then, and there was a desire among many men to put society back

to the way it had always been – with women out of work and, in terms of sports, relegated. In December 1921, the Football Association banned women's games on their grounds and forbade its members from acting as referees and linesmen. Women's football was effectively hobbled.

It was claimed that sport was unsuitable for women, with a (female) doctor stating it was "too much for a women's physical frame" and could harm fertility. As one team captain put it, the ban was simply "sex prejudice". It would only be lifted in 1971, meaning women's football had been off the team for decades, while the men's game only flourished.





Was the captain of the SS Californian ever punished?

As RMS Titanic sank in the early hours of 15 April 1912, a ship that could have saved hundreds of lives was only a few miles away, yet deaf to distress calls. The SS Californian had stopped for the night due to the risk of icebergs. Actually, its radio operator Cyril Evans had sent out warnings a few hours earlier... before going to bed.

During the night, the crew noticed a stopped ship not far away, and woke the captain, Stanley Lord, when it sent up white rockets. He didn't act, believing them to be signals between

ships of the same line. It was only when the radio was turned back on the next morning – and another ship, the RMS Carpathia, was on the scene - that the truth was realised.

population of Italy

in 1861 who could

Back on land, Lord made his case worse by giving conflicting reports to newspapers and the official inquiries. He claimed the Californian was 20-30 nautical miles from Titanic, when it was a lot closer. No charges were brought against him, but his career was in ruins. The captain of the Carpathia, meanwhile, was hailed a hero.

Why was a French prince a 'dauphin'?

From the mid-14th century to 1830 – but not forgetting the head-lopping hiatus of the French Revolution – the heir to the French throne was called the dauphin, or dolphin.

The bottlenose byname began with Guigues IV, Count of Albon, who – for reasons now unknown – had the aquatic mammal on his coat of arms (pictured below on a 14thcentury seal). Over the generations, it grew from a nickname

> to a title for his successors and their domain became the Dauphine. When the region, in southwestern France, was sold to King Philippe VI in 1349, his grandson took the name dauphin. He then handed it over to his son, and it stuck.

Turn to page 28 to read more about the French **Re**volution... through seven severed heads.





WHO INVENTED THE **JIGSAW PUZZLE?**

When you put the pieces of this question together, you should see the face of a 18th-century cartographer John Spilsbury. By mounting a map of the world on hardwood and cutting out pieces along the border lines, he made the first jigsaw puzzle in the 1760s.

Spilsbury, from London, hoped his cut-up maps would

PIECED TOGETHER John Spilsbury's 18th-century jigsaw

help teach geography. And to this day, his 1766 puzzle of Europe still exists, although anyone completing it will have to suffice without Scotland and the Netherlands.

They weren't called 'jigsaws', though, but 'dissection maps'. The more familiar name wouldn't become the norm until the late 19th century, when saws were used to cut out the pieces. That said, fretsaws were more the tool of choice - so should they be called fretsaw puzzles?

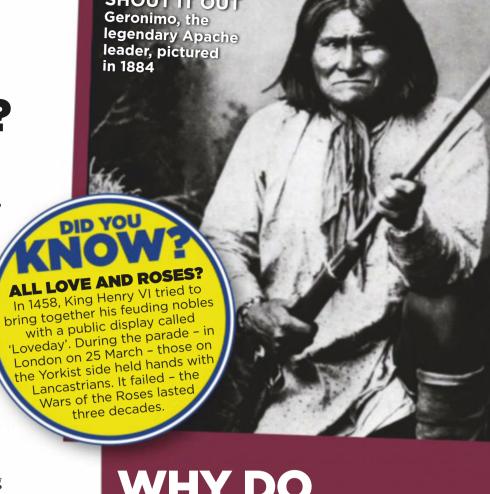
DID PEOPLE VISIT BEDLAM AS TOURISTS?

Bethlem was England's first asylum for the mentally ill, for many years a place of inhumane conditions - whose name became a byword for mayhem or madness – and, yes, a popular London attraction for the morbidly entertained.

Bethlem Royal Hospital began life in 1247 as the Priory of St Mary of Bethlehem, before turning to the 'care' of what they called the 'deranged' or 'lunatic'. With an understanding of mental health that, to put it mildly, was lacking, treatments were borderline torture. Rotational therapy, for instance, saw patients strapped to a chair suspended from the ceiling and spun around for hours - the inevitable vomiting was seen as a sign of healing.

In 1676, Bethlem, or Bedlam as it became known, moved from Bishopsgate to Moorfields, to buildings so spectacular that they were compared to Versailles. Until 1770, this 'palace of lunatics' opened its doors to paying spectators.

Visitors could walk freely through the corridors, observing - and provoking – the patients as if they were animals at a zoo. These visits brought in extra income for Bedlam and, it was hoped, served as a warning to the sane against vice and behavioural instability.



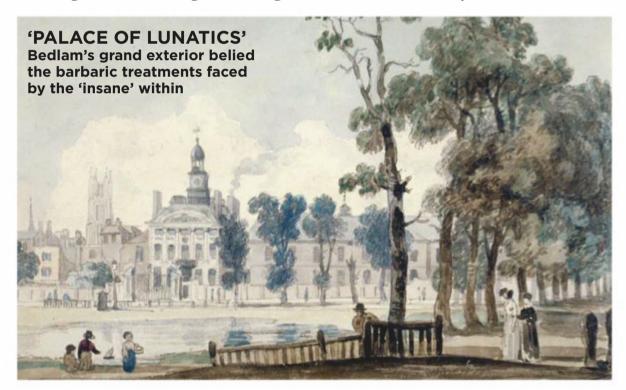
SHOUT IT OUT

WHY DO **WE SHOUT** "GERONIMO!"?

What is it about jumping out of planes that makes people call to mind a legendary leader of the Apache? The tradition began with what the real Geronimo would have considered his enemy: the US military.

During training in World War II, a group of paratroopers at Fort Benning, Georgia, went for a night on the town before their first jump. A few drinks and a Western film featuring Geronimo later, they were heading back to base when a private Aubrey Eberhardt started getting teased about being so scared the next day that he would forget his own name. To prove he wasn't scared out of his wits, he retorted, "I'm going to yell 'Geronimo' loud as hell when I go out that door tomorrow!"

He did, and the practice was repeated by more and more paratroopers. In fact, it became so popular that the 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment put the name Geronimo on their insignia.



WAS HITLER A CHRISTIAN?

To read and hear the Führer's public rhetoric in his early days in politics, it would be easy to think he did have a connection to Christianity, albeit a warped one. Adolf Hitler had been born to a Catholic mother, after all, and had been baptised.

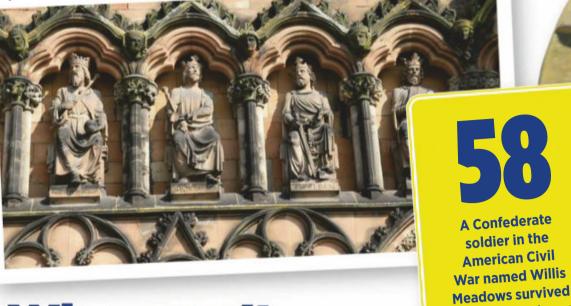
But any declarations of religious faith were mere propaganda. Hitler received the sacrament of confirmation only at his mother's behest, and after leaving home never returned to church. So when he called himself a Christian in speeches and his book *Mein Kampf*, it was in the name of political expediency, to win over an overwhelmingly Christian Germany.

Once in power, Hitler's attitude towards the church hardened. The Nazis pushed his 'Positive Christianity' movement, which rejected

traditional doctrine and anything deemed 'too Jewish', such as the divinity of Jesus, while espousing their master-race ideology.

TRUE COLOURS **Hitler crushes Catholic** associations, reformed churches and Jews in this illustration from 1935





Why aren't Saxons in lists of English kings and queens?

William I tops most monarch lists – no wonder he's the Conqueror – as it is generally held that all those before him were petty monarchs, ruling minor kingdoms in Anglo-Saxon England. So no Alfred the Great, no Canute and no Edward the Confessor. And the tradition completely undermines how Æthelstan was first king of a united England from AD 927-39, more than a century before the Battle of Hastings.

Standardisation of monarch lists began with Henrys VII and VIII, who went to great lengths to establish their line of descent. Besides, it's too late to change the list. To add all pre-Norman rulers in now would be to mess up the numbers as a few more Edwards would have to be added at least.



Enheduanna herself (third from right)

MARK

OF PRIDE

The limestone Disc of

Enheduanna depicts

Enheduanna, high priestess of the Sumerian city of Ur (in modern-day Iraq), was rightly proud of her achievements, so she signed her work. "The compiler of the tablets was En-hedu-ana. My king, something has been created that no one has created before," she wrote. And she may not be exaggerating for no records survive of an earlier work with a named author.

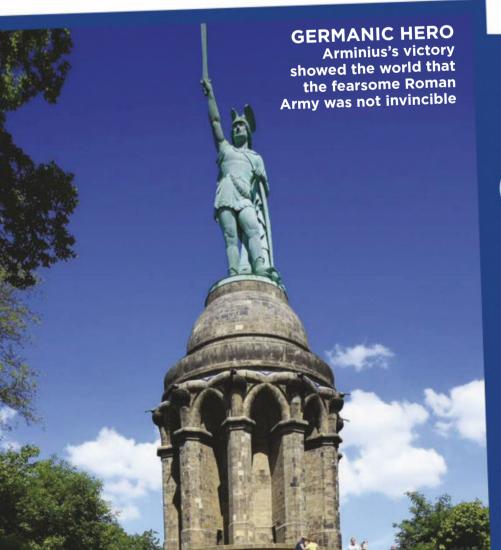
being shot in the eye - 58 years later, he coughed up

the bullet

Born around 2300 BC, Enheduanna was the daughter of the Akkadian king Sargon the Great, tasked with helping

secure his reign by bringing together their gods with the Sumerian ones. No small feat, but she managed this by writing at least 42 sacred hymns and devotional texts.

Unlike other ancient authors - many of whom she had a significant influence on – there is a portrait of Enheduanna too. In 1927, a limestone disc was discovered showing her as priestess, and for some reason it was worth showing her next to her estate manager, scribe and hairdresser.



Who was **Herman** the German?

He sounds like a children's comic book character, but you wouldn't say that to his face – Herman was a barbarian leader who bested Rome.

Arminius (Herman was a mistranslation) was born in the first century BC to the Germanic tribe, the Cherusci, on the northwestern edge of the Roman Empire. As a youth, he was taken their hostage, served in their military and was even awarded citizenship, but then

he turned on his masters. Having gathered a large force, Arminius ambushed and obliterated three entire Roman legions at the Battle of Teutoburg Forest in AD 9, a defeat so decisiv that Emperor Augustus had to abandon his plans for expansion.

The Roman historian Tacitus called him "liberator haud dubie Germaniae", or the liberator of Germany.

That reputation resurged in the 19th century when Arminius, now Herman, was hailed a national hero during the unification of Germany. Although, following World War II, his connection to nationalists saw him disgraced and removed from the history books.

HOW DID THE LONDON'S ELEPHANT AND CASTLE GET ITS NAME?

It was nothing to do with an escaped elephant from the zoo at the Tower of London or, as often put forward, from a lost-in-

translation hearing of the Spanish title, La Infanta de Castilla. The name actually derived from a central London coaching inn – a rest stop for long journeys – on the site of former blacksmiths and cutlers. One look at the coat of arms of the Worshipful Company of Cutlers, which features an elephant with a rook-like stronghold on its back, and it starts to make sense why the inn chose for its sign a proud elephant next to a castle.



SYMBOL OF STRENGTH The elephant and castle appears on the arms of the **Worshipful Company of Cutlers** - which made bladed weapons as well as butter knives

WELCOME Shortly after becoming President of Iraq, Saddam Hussein was warded the key to the US city of Detroit in 1980 in recognition of the thousands of dollars he

donated to churches.

That honour was never

DID PIRATES HAVE PARROTS?

PRETTY POLLY

Long John Silver, depicted here in

a 1954 film, was famed for his pet parrot

Long John Silver, from the 1883 novel *Treasure* Island, enshrined the image of a pirate having a loyal, pieces-of-eight-obsessed pet parrot, but that doesn't mean it was completely fictional.

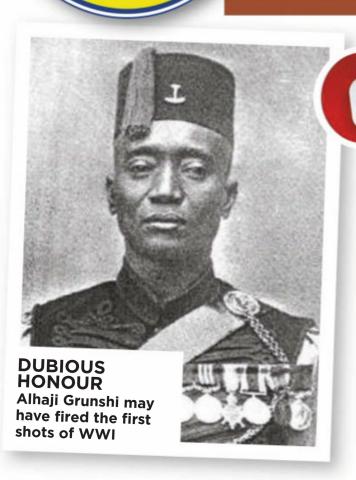
Exploration in the 17th and 18th centuries introduced European travellers to all kinds of exotic animals, including the parrot. They soon fetched a pretty polly – sorry, price – on markets back home, making them a colourful target for sailors, not just pirates, and a potential pet. They were intelligent, easy to feed and offered entertainment on long voyages.

WHO FIRED THE FIRST SHOTS OF **WORLD WAR I?**

It could be argued that the first shots were by Gavrilo Princip, assassin of Archduke Franz Ferdinand. But in terms of actual combat after war was declared, there are a couple of lesser-known names that may have pulled the trigger first.

Alhaji Grunshi, from Ghana, served the British in the Gold Coast Regiment when he was sent on patrol in the German colony of Togoland (Togo today). On either 7 or 12 August 1914, he fired on a small group of German-led police.

The Western Front had to wait until 22 August before hearing its first shot – from the gun of a 20-year-old British private named Ernest Edward Thomas. In the resulting skirmish, there were no human casualties, although one horse did die.



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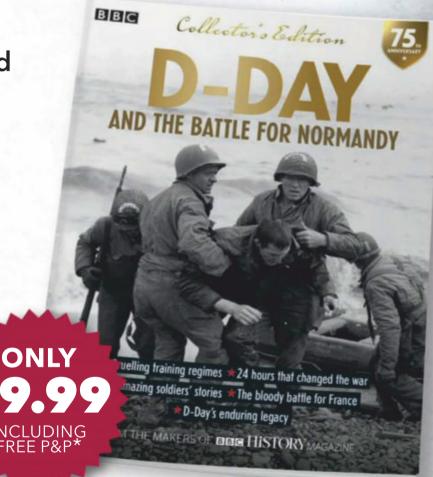
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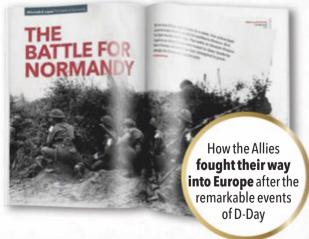
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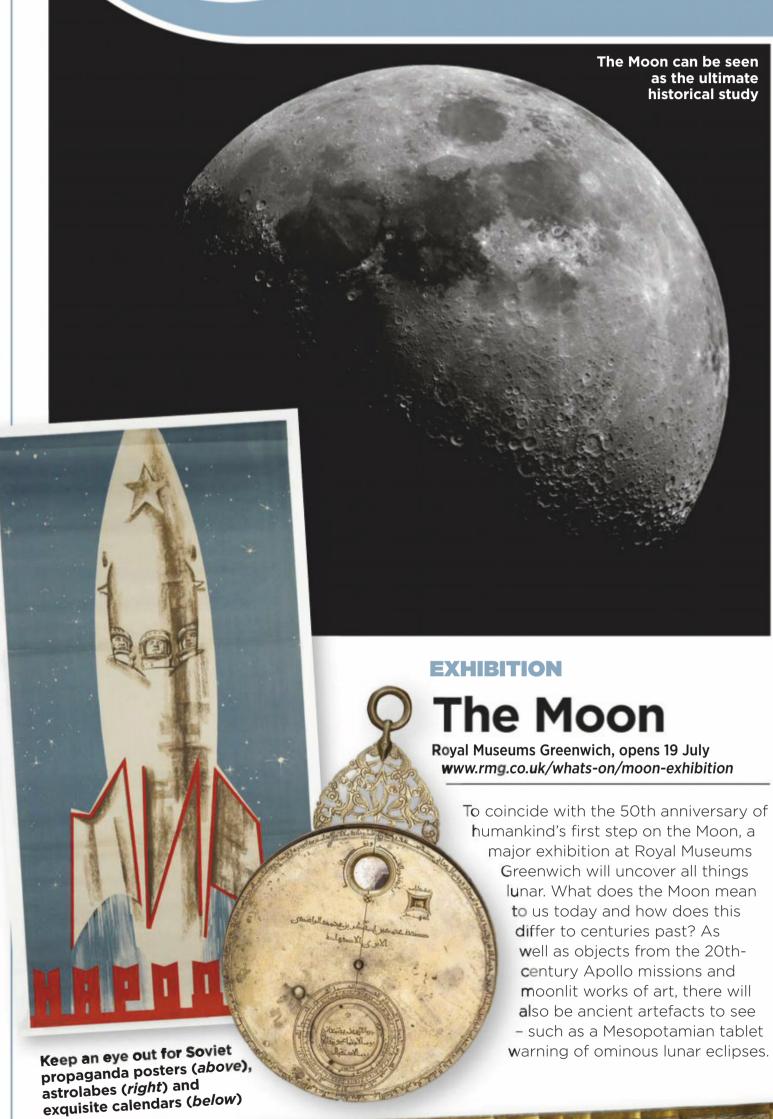




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BRITAIN'S TREASURES

Jonhoim Palaco neg



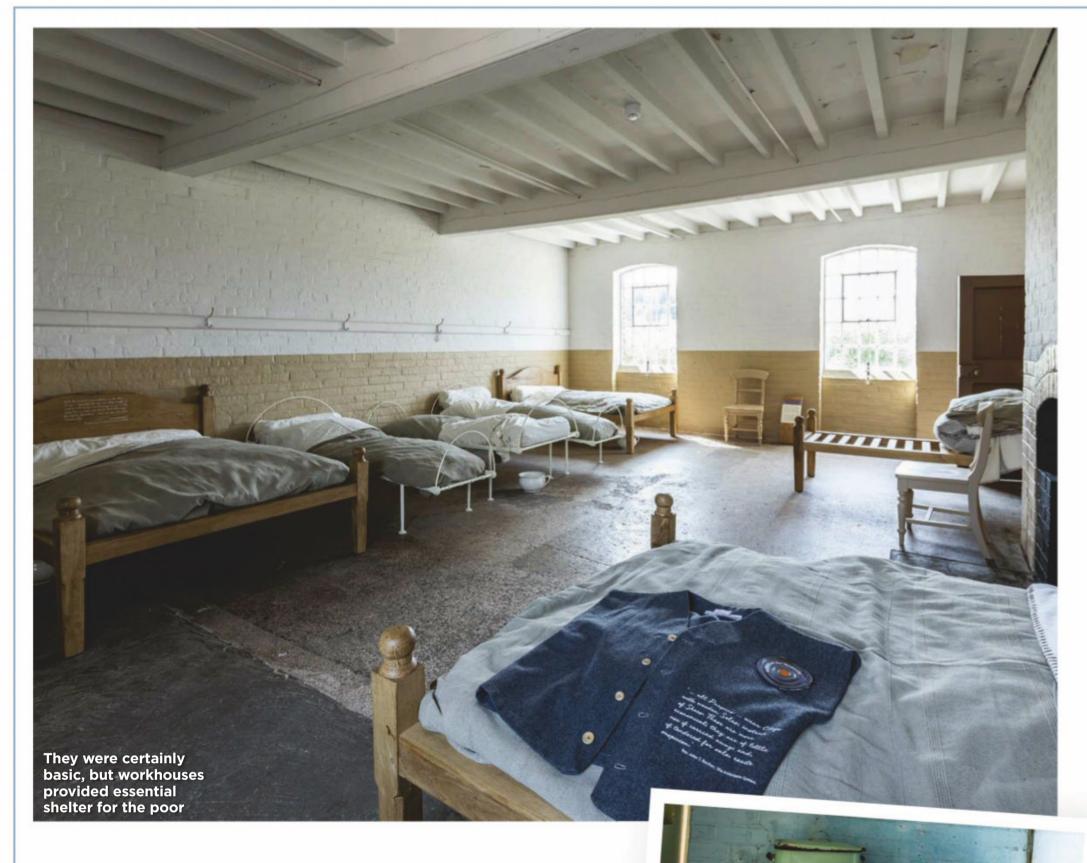
BOOK REVIEWS

Our look at the best new releases....p90









REOPENING

The Workhouse: Past, Present, Future

Southwell, Nottinghamshire www.nationaltrust.org.uk/the-workhouse-southwell

This 19th-century workhouse – one of the best-preserved examples in England – has undergone a five-year restoration project to return it to its original state and re-imagine its history. Previously unseen areas are now open to visitors, including a new hub that describes how families were split up and segregated on their arrival to the workhouse, and how people were treated. Built in 1824, the Southwell workhouse is the most complete workhouse in existence. The place of last resort for the local poor, it offered shelter to those in need until the 1980s and could hold 160 inmates. The infirmary, which has been restored to its 1870s appearance, will be open from July.





Colourful tales demand colourful outfits, it seems

EXHIBITION

Pirates: The Truth Behind the Tales

National Wool Museum, Dre-fach Felindre, Carmarthenshire, 15 July-8 September 2019 bit.ly/2W4dINT

Uncover the swashbuckling tales of pirates and privateers from across the world. What was it like to be a pirate and how does piracy continue in the present day? We're all familiar with the colourful tales of villainy on the high seas, but sometimes the real stories were even more exciting. Find out more in this adventure-filled exhibition.

TO BUY

Hnefatafl

The British Museum, £27 www.britishmuseumshoponline.org

Can you beat the Vikings at their own game? Hnefatafl was a popular game played across Europe during the Dark Ages. The simple aim is to capture the king – or escape if you are the monarch. This fun version of the game features resin pieces, a fabric board and comes in a gold-foiled box.



FESTIVAL

Wimpole History Festival

Wimpole Estate, Cambridgeshire, 20-23 June, www.wimpolehistoryfestival.com

The annual history and literary festival is back for its third year with a fantastic schedule of events for adults and children alike. A plethora of historians will be giving talks on all periods of history – Lucy Worsley will be reflecting on the life of Queen Victoria, Hallie Rubenhold discusses the untold tales of the victims of Jack the Ripper, while Neil Oliver looks at what makes the British Isles so special. Sword school will put wannabe knights through their paces and animal lovers can marvel at the bird of prey displays. Children's author Michael Morpurgo will also be on hand to talk about his latest book *Flamingo Boy*. The normal admission charge for Wimpole applies, with each event or talk requiring its own ticket.

FESTIVAL

Festival of Archaeology

Across the UK, 13–28 July, www.festival.archaeologyuk.org

Grab your trowels and get stuck in! The Festival of Archaeology is back with events for anyone who wants to find out more about the tools and technology used to dig up the past. Watch the experts in action, observe warfare demos or get your hands dirty and join in with a dig. There are events on across the country – from a shipwreck walk at Lizard Point in Cornwall, to an Iron Age party at the Scottish Crannog centre and a community dig at Lullingstone Roman villa.



ALSO LOOK OUT FOR

► Family Fun - Open weekend for families including miniature steam train rides and musical story sessions. London Transport Museum Depot, Acton, London, 13-14 July, bit.ly/2w7KQzk

► Knights of Hedingham – Jousting tournament to defend the castle. Hedingham Castle, Essex, 21 July, bit.ly/2VUjNXq



A PERILOUS UNDERTAKING

The 1900 Island

BBC Two & BBC iPlayer, scheduled for late June

The waters of the Menai Strait, which separates the Isle of Anglesey from mainland Wales, are notoriously treacherous. Small wonder then that a tiny row of cottages, located on the windswept tidal island of Llanddwyn at the entrance to the strait, lay uninhabited for 70 years.

Until recently, that is, when four families moved in as part of a living-history experiment, with the aim of recreating life in a fishing community in the early 20th century. If this sounds idyllic, it's worth noting the families were given just a small supply of food to get them started, had to learn to fish and forage, and had to cope without even the basic mod cons of electricity and running water.

Nonetheless, for all the physical hardships the families endure, this fascinating four-part series also charts how a community forms when people have no choice but to pull together – or go hungry.



Four families from Swansea, Cardiff, the Wirral and Kent take on the challenge of fishing for their supper in *The 1900 Island* on BBC Two



Beecham House is set in India on the cusp of the 19th century

INDIAN VISTAS Beecham House

ITV, scheduled for late June

Historical TV dramas set on the Indian subcontinent have often focused on the experiences of European expats. Created by director Gurinder Chadha (of Bend It Like Beckham fame) lavish new drama Beecham House by contrast portrays the colonial era from a variety of perspectives.

The series is centred on life in a vast Delhi mansion. Here, ex-soldier John Beecham (Tom Bateman) wants to conduct business in an equitable fashion, rather than employ the exploitative practices of the East India Company.

A PERILOUS UNDERTAKING

13 Minutes to the Moon

BBC Sounds and BBC World Service, available now, continues until July

Though few people were aware of it at the time, the Apollo 11 lunar module was potentially in deep trouble as it carried Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin down to the Moon on 20 July 1969. Fuel was running low, comms were difficult and the technology was operating at the absolute limit.

Marking the 50th anniversary of the first Moon landing, this podcast and series takes the dramatic 13-minute descent as its starting point, but also explores the backstory of how the work of a dedicated team ensured its success. Presented by Dr Kevin Fong, it features reflections of key figures ranging from Michael Collins, the Apollo 11 astronaut who stayed in orbit, to computer programmer Margaret Hamilton.

RIVER ODYSSEY

The Nile: 5,000 Years of History

Channel 5. scheduled for late June



Civilisation in Ancient Egypt relied on the Nile, which flooded every year, covering the land with fertile silt deposits. What better way, then, to explore the world of the Ancient Egyptians than from the river?

Boarding a traditional 'dahabiya' boat, Bettany Hughes travels upstream from the river's delta. As well as taking in pyramids, temples and the museum in Cairo, Hughes discovers – during an encounter with a sandbank – that the Nile isn't always as tranquil as it appears from a safe distance.

VILLAIN OR VICTIM?

Charles I and a Nation Divided

BBC Four, scheduled for July

The second Stuart monarch to rule as the king of England, Scotland and Ireland, Charles I came to the throne in 1625. His reign was a disaster as his kingdoms were plunged into brutal civil war, and Charles himself was executed in 1649.

The conventional view of Charles is that his sorry fate was largely the result of his own high-handedness and authoritarian nature. But does the historical evidence back this up? In a three-part series that

Was Charles a victim or a villain?

mixes expert testimony and dramatic reconstruction, Lisa Hilton interrogates the origins of Charles' downfall.

We'll be chatting to Lisa in our August issue - on sale 11 July



Past episodes have explored wartime relics, forgotten ruins and ghostly villages

LOST TO TIME

Abandoned Engineering

Yesterday, scheduled for late June

Returning for a fourth series, Abandoned Engineering has been a huge hit for Yesterday and it's easy to see why. There's something deeply fascinating about seeing buildings that have outlived their usefulness and been left to crumble.

Episode details were still to be confirmed as *BBC History Revealed* went to press, but it's safe to suggest we can expect to see hidden tunnels, eerie former military installations and vast construction projects that have become swathed in greenery.

ALSO LOOK OUT FOR

► A forthcoming episodes of BBC Radio 4's *Open Country* focuses on how working on archaeological digs can help military personnel deal with trauma (Thursday 4 July).

► The Hansa Inheritance (BBC Radio 4, Sunday 7 July) explores how a medieval trading network linking England with the continent continues to exercise an influence.



BRITAIN'S TREASURES...

BLENHEIM PALACE Oxfordshire

This stately pile boasts one of the country's most popular vistas and is the birthplace of one of Britain's most well-known prime ministers



The palace is open 10.30am-5.30pm every day. The park opens at 9am. Tickets for the palace, park and gardens are £27 (£16 for children), which can be used for a year.

FIND OUT MORE:Visit www.blenheimpalace.com

he finest view in England." This was the verdict of Lord Randolph Churchill when first gazing upon the grand buildings and lush parkland of Blenheim Palace. His lordship may have been a tad biased: as the third son of the 7th Duke and Duchess of Marlborough, the palace was the family seat. It would also be where his own son - and future prime minister – Winston Churchill was born. But his claim cannot be denied. The view across Blenheim's grounds has come to be regarded as one that's quintessentially English.

Until the early 18th century, the site was simply the deer park belonging to the ruined manor of Woodstock, but in 1704, the land was gifted to John Churchill. Born into minor gentry, he had risen (then fallen and risen again) to royal favour thanks to his success as a military leader. A grateful Queen Anne made Churchill the 1st Duke of Marlborough, then awarded him the land at Woodstock in recognition of his victories in the War of the Spanish Succession, including the Battle of Blenheim. Anne even persuaded her parliament to contribute the princely sum of £240,000 to build a Churchill family seat fitting for a national hero.

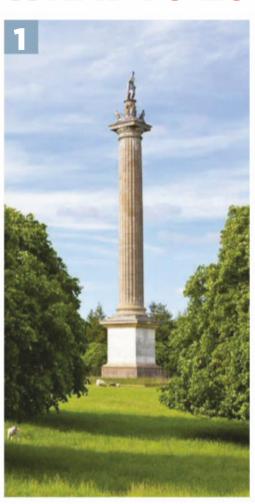
The duke's lively wife Sarah – who happened to be close friends

with the Queen – expressed a preference for Sir Christopher Wren, the architect who rebuilt the City of London after the Great Fire of 1666, to be appointed as the palace's designer. Instead, the Duke commissioned John Vanbrugh for the job, a man who combined the twin careers of architect and playwright.

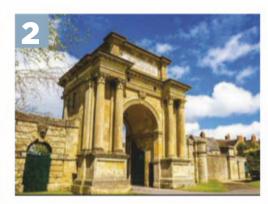
Vanbrugh had worked on the early stages of the construction of Castle Howard in Yorkshire and his designs for the Marlboroughs' grand home shared an equally English Baroque vision. This wasn't to the Duchess's liking. He would face sturdy opposition from Sarah at every juncture, particularly when it came to the

The water terraces were added in the 1920s to make the already impressive building look more like the Palace of Versailles

WHAT TO LOOK FOR...



COLUMN OF VICTORY Looming over the park's northern reaches is a 41-metre column, a salute to the 1st Duke of Marlborough. A statue of him dressed as a Roman general stands on top.



ARCH OF TRIUMPH
Those visiting the palace grounds from Woodstock pass under this magnificent archway, built in 1723 by Nicholas Hawksmoor and based on the Arch of Titus in Rome.



GRAND BRIDGE
It was only when Capability Brown submerged much of John Vanbrugh's oversized bridge by creating a lake that it properly fitted the scale of its surroundings.



THE GREAT HALL
The exquisite ceiling, painted by
Sir James Thornhill in 1716, depicts
the 1st Duke in Roman costume
showing his plans for the Battle of



WINSTON'S BIRTHPLACE
His parents had hoped their first
son would be born in London, but
this small room, just off the Great
Hall, was where Winston Churchill
took his first breath.

"The bridge was so huge that it contained 30 rooms"

level of extravagance he wished to apply to the project, and thus the degree of expense. Indeed, when her husband was overseas on military campaign, Sarah took over the reins and even banned the architect from the site.

After decades of building and money issues – the Duke had coughed up £60,000 when the build began and had to fund its completion after the public purse snapped shut – Blenheim was finally finished in 1722, the same year that Marlborough died. It was a bold and striking structure, the UK's only non-royal, non-religious building to be called a palace.

HIGH WATER

Yet it wasn't until 1764 that the grounds began to reflect their

present-day appearance, when the 4th Duke commissioned the celebrated landscape designer Lancelot 'Capability' Brown to remodel some 2,000 acres.

There was one pressing issue. Vanbrugh had constructed a bridge so huge that it contained around 30 rooms, but it straddled the River Glyme, which was little more than a gentle stream. Brown created a vast lake to make the incongruously large bridge more suitable, and deliberately flooded many of its rooms in the process.

Home to generations of Marlboroughs since, Blenheim temporarily reinvented itself during wartime. The palace was used as a convalescence hospital for injured soldiers during World War I (and provided a safe haven for around 400 evacuated boys from 1939-40). Then, as World War II still raged, Capability Brown's lake proved useful for practicing the D-Day landings.

Some 36 year earlier, the man who led Britain at the time of that crucial military operation, Winston Churchill, had been strolling through the park with far more romantic intentions in mind than military training. In a summer house on the grounds, he proposed to his future wife, Clementine. The place remained eternally significant to him, as he later mused: "At Blenheim, I took two very important decisions; to be born and to marry. I am content with the decision I made on both occasions." •

WHY NOT VISIT...

Just a sample of the historical sites around Oxfordshire

BODLEIAN LIBRARY

Among Oxford's dreaming spires sits arguably England's most famous library. Daily tours are available along with visits to the iconic Radcliffe Camera. www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk

WINSTON CHURCHILL'S GRAVE

The former prime minister is buried in the graveyard of St Martin's church in the village of Bladon, a short drive away.

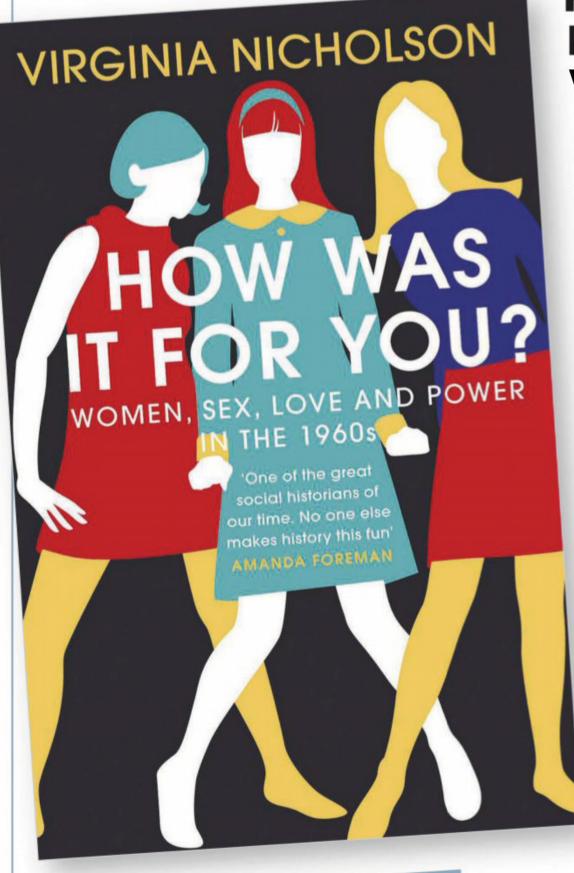
www.woodstockandbladon.com/
churches/bladon

BAMPTON

This chocolate-box village will be familiar to fans of Downtor Abbey, as the outside scenes were filmed here. www.cotswolds.info/places/ bampton

BOOKS

This month's best historical reads

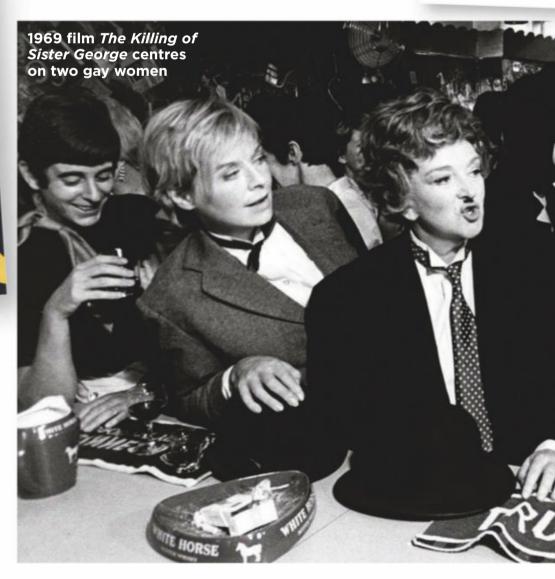


"Change didn't happen quickly, and nor did it happen for everyone"

How Was It For You? Women, Sex, Love and Power in the 1960s

By Virginia Nicholson Viking, £20, hardback, 512 pages

This evocative, empathetic account of the so-called 'sexual revolution' of the 1960s opens with a striking thought experiment: imagine the pensioners around you today as they were some 50 years ago, when they were young people buffeted by the opportunities and the strictures of a decade of political and social change. As Virginia Nicholson skilfully argues, change didn't happen quickly, and nor did it happen for everyone. Through interviews with a cast of fascinating women, she sketches the ways in which fashion, music, politics and sex offered new forms of self-expression – and the chance to change Britain forever.







MEET THE AUTHOR

Social historian **Virginia Nicholson** explains why the 1960s can't be written off as a "long, luscious debauch", and how modern feminists might learn from that turbulent decade

Your book features some hugely interesting women. How did you track them down, and decide who to include?

I'm prompted by reading widely around the subject. For example, reading about the plight of women whose babies were affected by the 'wonder-drug' thalidomide sent me in search of a mum in this situation. And knowing that the Playboy Club first opened in London in 1966 made me eager to talk to somebody who'd worked there as a bunny girl. My wishlist didn't include things such as 'Woman willing to talk about having abortion' – and that's because it didn't need to. The stories just spilled out.

Are there any specific characters or stories that stand out?

Theresa Edwards gave me some fascinating - if depressing – insights into how mixed-race women handled male assumptions about permissiveness. I also particularly loved hearing from a Scottish woman from the Glens, who described being a nursery maid for a rich family in Chelsea. Looking at the London social scene in 1964 through her eyes was like observing a distant planet through a telescope.

How different was life for women in 1969 compared to how it had been in 1960?

In 1960, most women unquestioningly saw their future as marriage

and family, and society didn't favour female ambition. The introduction of the contraceptive pill in 1961 was a game-changer, but as it was supposedly only available to married women, it took time to have a general impact. But as the decade progressed, single women were starting to discover that they could behave as men had always behaved. From screaming at a Beatles concert to getting laid, many women found the new freedoms intoxicating. However, they came with a price tag: the sexual revolution favoured

men, and by the end of the decade we start to see the emergence of the Women's Liberation Movement, whose cause was equality.

Why is it important to understand this story in today's world?

Feminism still has a long road to travel. In some ways it's depressing to see my 20-something daughters and their friends growing up in a world that has progressed so little since the days of the sexual feeding frenzy described in my book. But it's also inspiring to watch as their generation develop a new kind of feminism through #MeToo. The old generation isn't always the enemy: I think there is huge

value, for young women fighting new battles, for them to understand what their mothers and grandmothers had to contend with. But I'd also like to see readers understand something of the genuine idealism that drove the 60s generation.



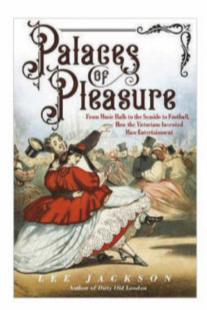
"The
1960s sexual
revolution was
for everyone
- but mainly
men"

How would you like to change readers' view of the 1960s, and of women's experience of the decade?

There's a common view that the dominant themes of the 1960s were sex, love and peace. This book unpicks that myth, and emphasises that rock'n'roll culture was far from being everyone's experience. Plenty of men and women continued to believe in the values of family, home and women's place in it.

The book also lifts the lid on the idea that the decade was one long, luscious debauch for all concerned. Sadly, then as now, there was reluctance on the part of men to relinquish their power. The 1960s sexual revolution was for everyone – but mainly men.

Virginia Nicholson reappraises the 1960s on a recent episode of Woman's Hour, available on BBC Radio 4 www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0003zbl

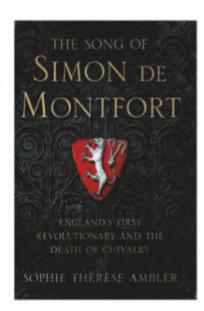


Palaces of Pleasure

By Lee Jackson

Yale, £20, hardback, 320 pages

It's easy to think of the Victorian era as merely a hard slog through slums, factories and mines – yet people in 19th-century Britain also very much knew how to enjoy themselves. This look at the lighter side of the period takes in the seaside, the music hall and the pleasure garden, along with a look at how some of these entertainments caused a stir due to their perceived immorality and irreligiosity.

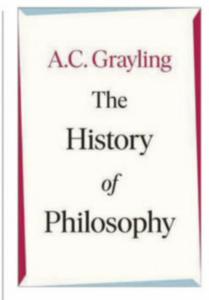


The Song of Simon de Montfort

By Sophie Thérèse Ambler

Picador, £20, hardback, 368 pages

Knight, crusader, father and leader: Simon de Montfort packed a lot into his five decades of life. As this biography points out, he was also a genuine revolutionary, turning the political world of the 13th century on its head by opposing the rule of King Henry III, and setting up a council that would control England. This is a dramatic story, told here with clarity and insight.

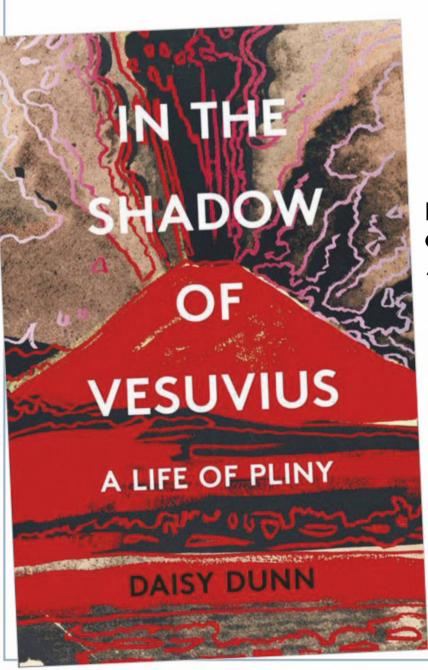


The History of Philosophy

By AC Grayling

Viking, £26, hardback, 704 pages

Stumped by Socatres? Don't know your Xenophanes from your Anaxagoras? This overview of the history of philosophical thought is a good place to start. It's involved, yes, but it's also accessible, offering a run-through of key thinkers from the ancient world to the present day. It's also helpful for understanding the ideas that underpinned politics, religion and morality in societies through time.

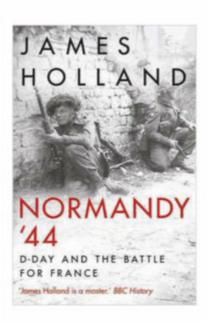


In the Shadow of Vesuvius: A Life of Pliny

By Daisy Dunn

William Collins, £20, hardback, 324 pages

After he perished when Vesuvius erupted in AD 79, Pliny the Elder left an extraordinary gift: his *Natural History*, which in many ways resembles a modern encyclopaedia. His nephew, also helpfully named Pliny, was also an author, and through their eyes we can construct a remarkably lush picture of the ancient world. This fascinating book explores the events, characters and ideas of that world, from the beauty of nature to the tyranny of power.

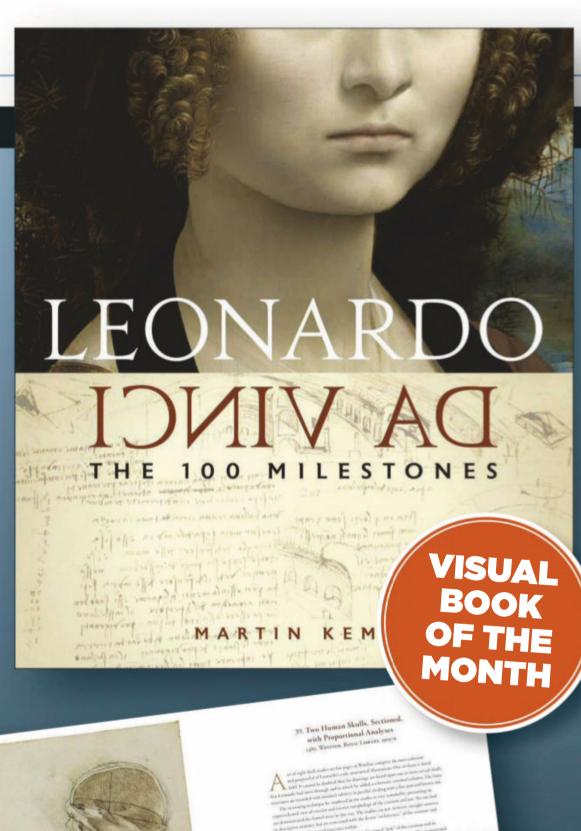


Normandy '44: D-Day and the Battle for France

By James Holland

Bantam Press, £25, hardback, 720 pages

James Holland is an effortless, effervescent chronicler, and here he brings his talents to bear on the D-Day landings. Guiding readers from the build-up to the campaign, through to the brutality and confusion of the 1944 Normandy landings and their aftermath, this is a fresh new take on an episode that has long since entered historical myth. Useful guides to key players and extensive maps provide valuable context, too.



Leonardo da Vinci: The 100 Milestones

By Martin Kemp Sterling, £25, hardback, 224 pages

This sumptuous book offers an overview of Renaissance master Leonardo da Vinci's staggering body of work through 100 images, from paintings and anatomical sketches to manuscripts and engineering diagrams. The big-hitters are here – 'Madonna and Child with Flowers', 'The Baptism of Christ' and, of course, the 'Mona Lisa' – but so too are more esoteric offerings from the worlds of maths and science. A great way to mark the 500th anniversary of the influential polymath's death.

"A sumptuous overview of da Vinci's staggering body of work"



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He's perhaps most famous for painting the 'Mona Lisa', but Leonardo da Vinci was a man of many talents

READERS' LETTERS

Get in touch - share your opinions on history and our magazine

"I vividly remember being

regaled by his stories, including

the one in the magazine"

FAMILY TIES

Thank you for the very interesting article on the D-Day landings (June 2019). Stanley 'Scotty' Scott of No3 Commando [whose story was covered in the feature] was my father. He sadly passed away five years ago, but I vividly remember being regaled by his stories,

including the one featured

His wartime stories were

published in a book: Fighting

with the Commandos, which



was edited by Neil Barber. We make annual pilgrimages to the Royal Hospital Chelsea, the

National Memorial Arboretum

to our ancestral home near

WD Scott, Surrey

Fort William.

and, on remembrance weekend,

Editor's reply

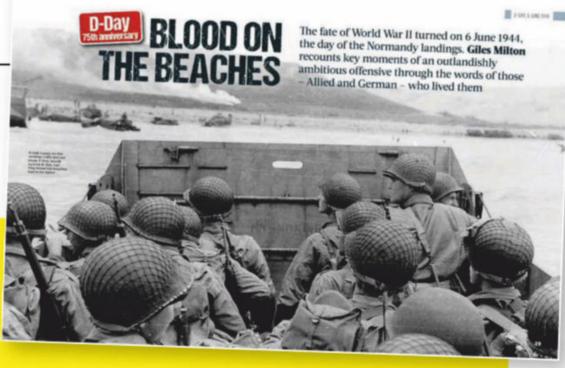
the eyes of the people who lived it, like your father - and we suspect many BBC History

WD Scott receives a hardback copy of WWII Remembered: From Blitzkrieg to the Allied Victory, by Richard Overy. The commemorative edition contains an audio DVD of veterans'

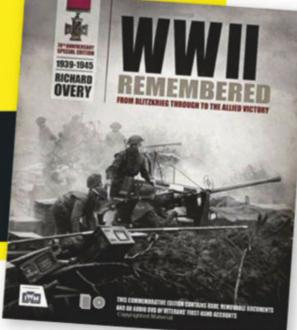
first-hand accounts.



We love seeing history through Revealed readers do too.



INTO THE BREACH **Our feature explored D-Day** from the perspective of the men on the front lines



TAILOR-MADE CONTENT

in the magazine.

What a brilliant edition June's issue was. I felt the magazine was tailor-made for my own interests! The brilliant and mysterious Bible article was fascinating, as was the D-Day landings piece, telling the brave stories of young heroic soldiers from such a pivotal part of World War II. The feature on the Borgia family was an interesting read with the amazing pictures from the past and present. The Inca article and the Viking raid of Britain were also intriguing reads. Thank you for being your usual excellent standard. May it always continue!

💌 Richard Ives, East Sussex

MORE SOUTH AMERICA!

Your recent article on the Inca Empire (June 2019), written

masterfully by Nige Tassell, is a must for anyone new to the tragedy and horror of the Spanish conquistadores. It is a breathtaking snapshot into 16th-century 'ethnic cleansing', performed on a world not then used to such plunder, barbarity and horror as the Spanish unleashed on the Inca people.

I would like to see more content in the magazine on South America, including colourful characters such as Venezuelan military leader Simón Bólivar and Bernardo O'Higgins, the 19th-century dictator of Chile. Both of these men were larger-than-life superheroes to the countries where they planted first their feet and secondly their flags. On a world scale, the last serious event for Britain was

GOLD CRUSH

Lured to the New World by jewels and riches, the Spanish swept away the Inca Empire

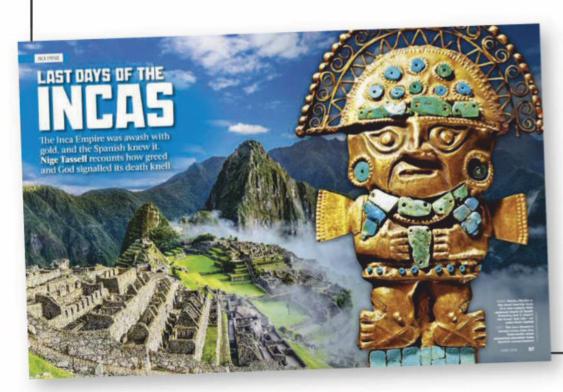
the Falklands War of 1982 when a hastily assembled task force had to sail thousands of miles to defeat an enemy entrenched on disputed soil. Without the unification of the country [Chile] in the 19th century, it's arguable whether Britain's task force would have had anywhere to refuel after such a long and hazardous trip. **™** Duncan McVee,

Lancashire

EDWARDIAN LIVING

The infographic on the Edwardian house (May 2019) brought back a few memories, as my great-grandparents owned such a house near Brighton. But there were a few features missing from your illustration.

The food was brought straight up from the kitchen to the dining room by a hand-powered small 'lift' called a 'dumbwaiter'.



This meant that the food stayed hot and avoided the possibility of any servant slipping on the kitchen to dining room stairs while carrying trays of hot food.

Also, under the house as part of the cellar was a large brick lined room called the 'cold room'. Many Edwardian households didn't have refrigeration; fruit was often boiled down into kilner jars and the filled jars stacked in the cold room.

≥ James Wells, via email

TRUTH VS MYTH?

I read every issue of BBC History Revealed, but I do have a couple of issues with the latest edition (June 2019). In your feature on the Bible, Professor John Barton writes off the early chapters of Genesis as 'myth or legend'. I beg to disagree. Anyone acquainted with the scriptures realises that these foundational chapters are vital to what comes next.



UPSTAIRS, DOWNSTAIRS Life in an Edwardian House was a tale of two halves

Although we cannot prove everything, they certainly are not at odds with any archaeological finds, nor historical or scientific discoveries for that matter. Jeff Hewitson,

Renfrewshire

PICTURE POSTCARD



Thanks to BBC History Revealed reader Anita Hochste, who emailed this beautiful photo of Muiderslot Castle in the Netherlands, taken during a visit in April.



If you'd like to share your thoughts and photos on a historical trip you've made and possibly be featured on our Letters page - send them to us using the details in the Get in Touch box to the right.

Anita receives a hardback copy of **History Year by Year:** The Ultimate Visual **Guide to the Events** that Shaped the World.

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EDITORIAL

Editor Charlotte Hodgman charlotte.hodgman@immediate.co.uk **Production Editor** Kev Lochun kev.lochun@immediate.co.uk

Staff Writer

Emma Slattery Williams

Art Editor Sheu-Kuei Ho Picture Editor Rosie McPherson **Illustrators** Marina Amaral. Ed Crooks, Chris Stocker

CONTRIBUTORS & EXPERTS

Tessa Dunlop, Pat Kinsella, Matt Elton, Julian Humphrys, Gordon O'Sullivan, Virginia Nicholson, Josette Reeves. Jon Savage, Mark Simner, Richard Smyth, Nige Tassell, Rosemary Watts, Emma J Wells, Jonny Wilkes, Lucy Worsley, Jonathan Wright

PRESS & PR

Communications Manager Emma Cooney 0117 300 8507 emma.cooney@immediate.co.uk

CIRCULATION Circulation Manager Helen Seymour

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

Group Advertising Manager Tom Drew tom.drew@immediate.co.uk **Advertisement Manager**

Sam Jones 0117 314 8847 sam.iones@immediate.co.uk

Subscriptions Director Jacky Perales-Morris

Subscriptions Marketing Manager Natalie Lawrence

PRODUCTION

Production Director Sarah Powell

Production Co-ordinator

Lilv Owens-Crossman Ad Co-ordinator Georgia Tolley Ad Designer Julia Young Reprographics Rob Fletcher, Tony Hunt, Chris Sutch

PUBLISHING

Content director David Musgrove Commercial director Jemima Dixon Managing director Andy Healy **Group managing director** Andy Marshall

CEO Tom Bureau

BBC STUDIOS, UK PUBLISHING Director of Editorial Governance Nicholas Brett

Director of Consumer Products and Publishing Andrew Moultrie **Head of Publishing** Mandy Thwaites

Compliance Manager Cameron McEwan **UK Publishing Coordinator**

Eva Abramik uk.publishing@bbc.com

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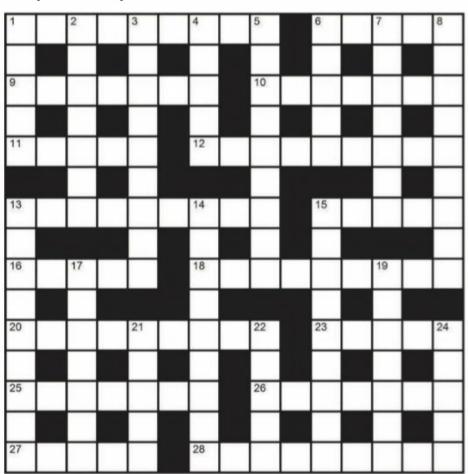


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CROSSWORD Nº 70

Test your history knowledge to solve our prize puzzle - and you could win a fantastic new book

Set by Richard Smyth



ACROSS

- 1 Arab-Israeli conflict fought in June 1967 (3-3,3)
- **6** Anwar ___ (1918-81), third President of 24 Down (5)
- **9** Open letter of January 1898 written by Émile Zola (7)
- **10** Early 20th-century poetry movement that included Ezra Pound and 'HD' (7)
- **11** Notorious legislator of ancient Athens (5)
- **12** Oskar ___ (1908-74), German industrialist who was buried in Jerusalem (9)
- **13** Claude ___ (1910-91), African-American activist (9)
- **15** Giuseppe ___ (1813-1901), Italian composer (5)
- **16** Ethnic group of Africa, mainly South Africa (5)

- **18** Early Christian theologian (AD 354-430), Bishop of Hippo and saint (9)
- **20** ____ Isn't What It Used To Be, 1978 memoir by French actress Simone Signoret (9)
- **23** Company founded in 1976 by Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak and Ronald Wayne (5)
- **25** Criminal gang run by Ronnie and Reggie Kray (3,4)
- **26** A storehouse ie. raccard, ghorfa or hórreo (7)
- **27** Traditional Burns Night supper accompaniment (5)
- **28** Prefabricated steel structure, widely used during World War II (6,3)

DOWN

- **1** Iranian Muslim dynasty of the ninth and tenth centuries (5)
- **2** City in central China, capital in the Han Dynasty (7)
- **3** "You can never get ____ large enough or a book long enough to suit me" attributed to author CS Lewis (1,3,2,3)
- 4 Alan ___ (1923-96), BBC sports commentator (5)
- **5** Berlin building damaged by fire on 27 February 1933 (9)
- **6** Country ruled by General Franco from 1936 to 1975 (5)
- **7** Gottlieb ___ (1834-1900), German engineer, industrialist and engine pioneer (7)
- **8** The Fighting ____, 1838 painting by JMW Turner (9)
- **13** The site of the first shots fired in the American Revolutionary War (9)
- **14** Historically, supporters of King William III (9)
- **15** In a feudal system, a subordinate state (9)
- **17** ___ Publications Act, 1959 law under which the publishers of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* were prosecuted in 1960 (7)
- **19** To charge with offences, as in the case of US President Andrew Johnson in 1868 (7)
- **21** Constellation described by Ptolemy, Latin for 'ram' (5)
- **22** All-seeing watchman in Greek mythology (5)
- **24** Ancient country of northeast Africa (5)

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Bosworth to Bognor
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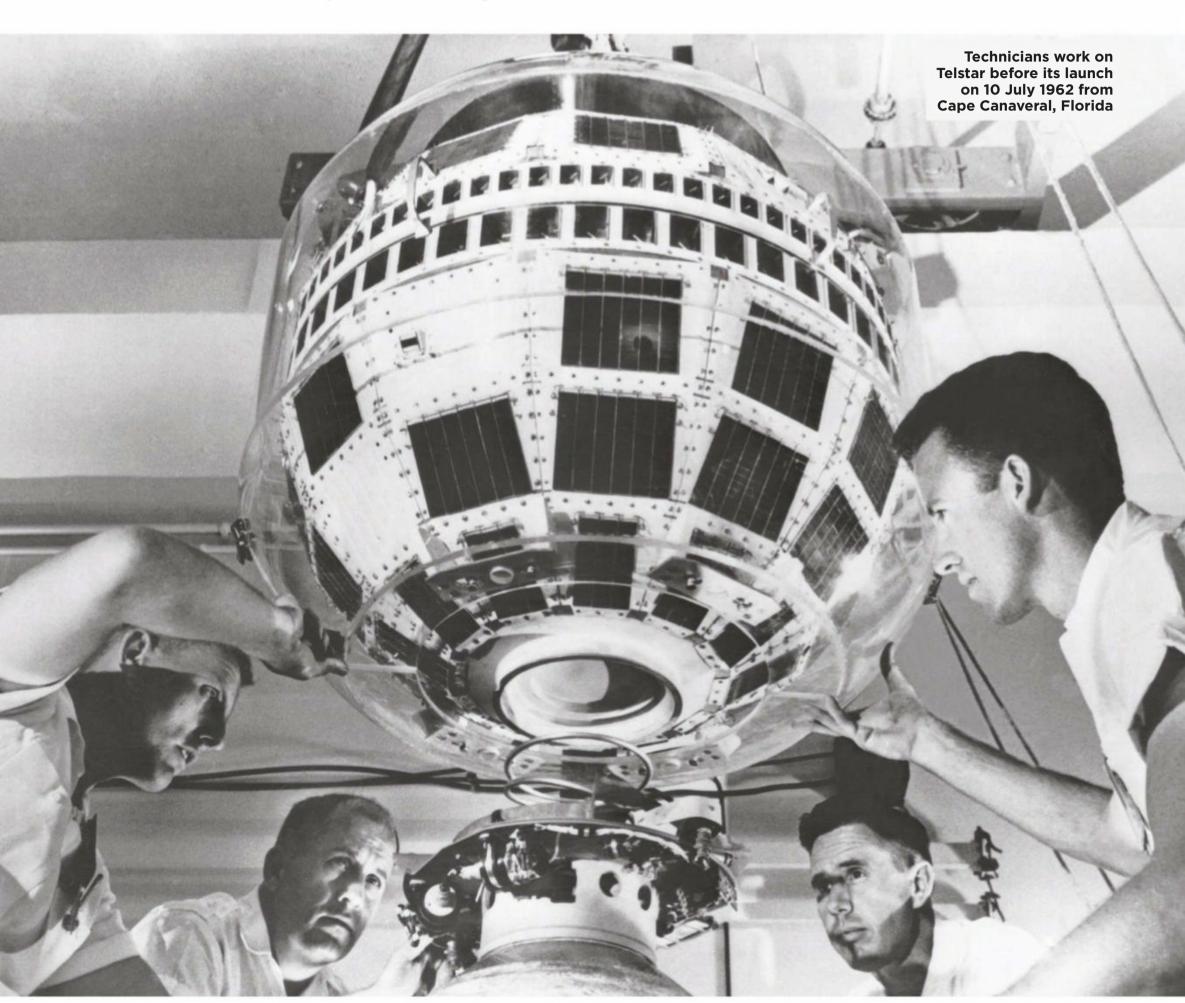
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BBC

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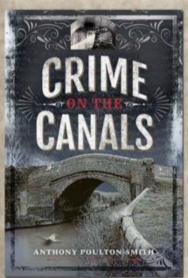
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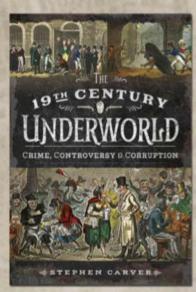
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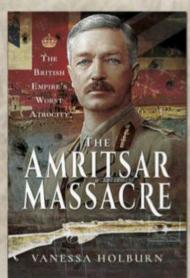
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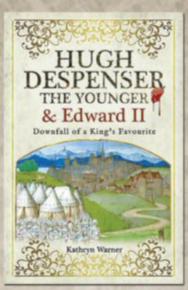
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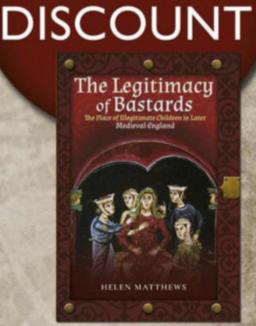
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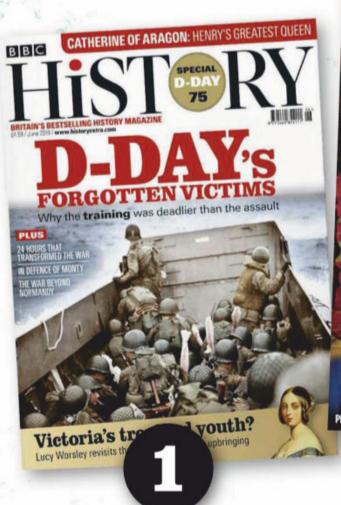
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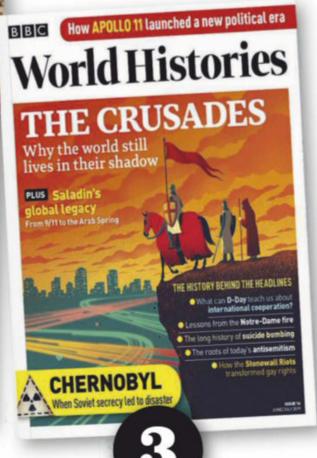
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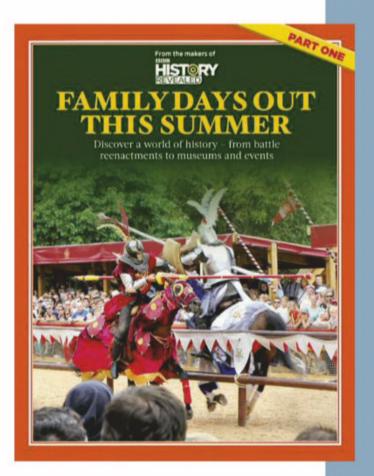
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Welcome



Summer is finally here, and what better way to make the most of the long, light days, than to immerse yourself in a **world of history**.

In this mini-magazine, you'll find a wealth of **inspiration for fun-filled family days** out across the UK – from the Neolithic wonders of Stonehenge, to history festivals, battle

reenactments and living history events. And if you're planning a trip to one of Britain's many **medieval castles**, we've included some handy tips that will help you spot some of their hidden secrets.

We've also included a selection of exhibitions and events taking place this summer – from the **daring aerial feats** of Scotland's National Airshow, to the food and drink of **ancient Pompeii**.

You can find **even more ideas** for historical days out in part two of our *Family Days Out This Summer* guide, which comes free with the August issue of *BBC History Revealed* – on sale from 11 July. Have fun!

Charlotte Hodgman

Editor



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These medieval landmarks were made for more than war......p4

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ON THE COVER; ALAMY, ON THIS PAGE: ALAMY XZ, ENGLISH HERTTAGE/ROBERT SMITH X



GRAND DAY OUT

When you set foot inside a castle, you step into history. Whether it's an ancient ruin or still a sturdy structure, there is loads to see and do. Here are the most fascinating elements to look for – you might not find some of them in the average guide book. So, keep your eye out for these wonders the next time you visit a mighty fortress...

HOW TO VISIT CASTLES

Go behind the scenes of one the bastions of the British landscape: the medieval castle

astles were fortified homes built to stand up to attack. Entire communities existed within the castle – not only the lord lived here, but also soldiers, armourers, blacksmiths, cooks, washers and scribes, along with their families. Within a castle would be kitchens, bedrooms, workshops and other buildings, as well as defences. Comfort took a second place to security, though, so rooms were squeezed in where there was space and they were often small, cold and draughty.

DEFENCE TACTICS

A castle's main defences were its strong stone walls, and it is these that you will most likely see during a visit. Gateways and corners were vulnerable to attack, so were often protected with towers, the largest and strongest of which was called the keep.

The open area inside the walls was called the bailey. This was where local villagers sheltered with their property when an enemy army approached. Workshops and other structures may have been built of wood, so

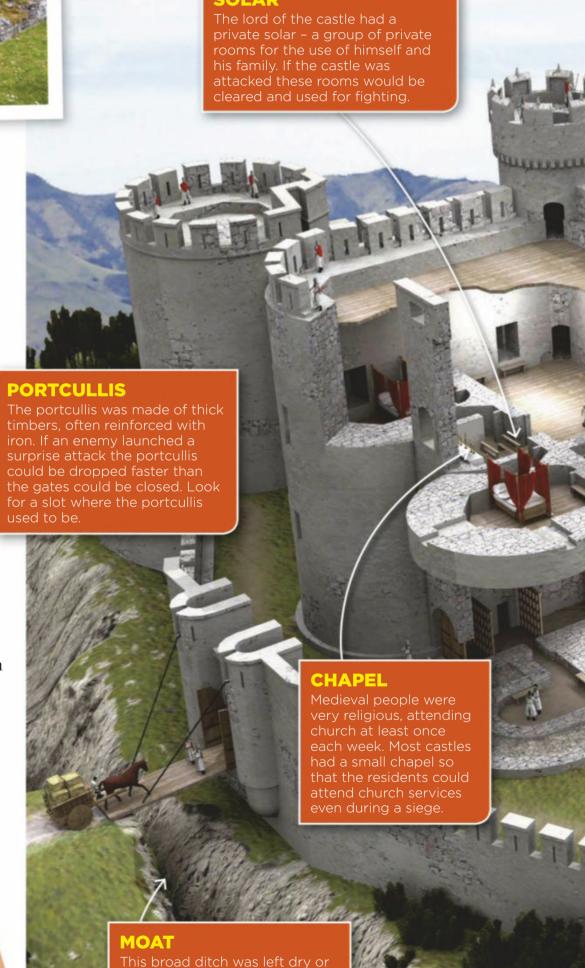
won't have survived, but you may be able to see traces of them in the ruins.

Construction techniques changed over the centuries.
The first castles in the 11th century were built of timber walls protected by ditches and mounds of earth. Within a century, new weapons had been created that could batter down timber walls, so by the 12th century, walls and towers were all built of stone. By the 14th century, some castles were being built with an outer wall designed to delay an attack on the main fortress. These are known as concentric castles.

During the British Civil Wars, many castles were destroyed by cannon fire. Even the castles that survived were often abandoned as people moved to more comfortable homes. Today, most castles are ruins, though a few have been modernised and are still inhabited.

TURN OVER FOR...

Six of the best castles to visit around Britain



the castle. Having a moat made



ALAMY X1, DWR PHOTOGRAPHY X1, GETTY IMAGES X2, NIEA X1, ROYAL COLLECTION TRUST/PETER PARKER X1

SIX OF THE BEST... BRITISH CASTLES TO VISIT

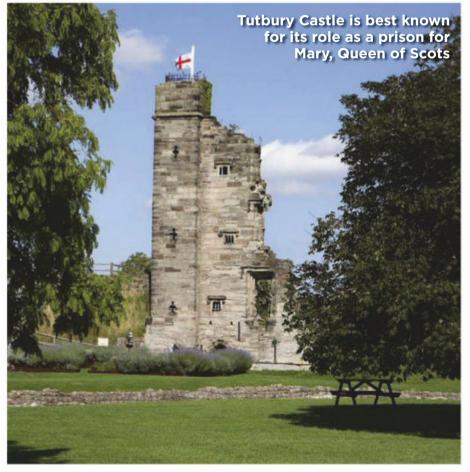


WINDSOR CASTLE Berkshire

Windsor Castle was begun by
William the Conqueror in the
11th century to control the River
Thames. William built the castle of
wood, but the timber was replaced
by stone over the following
century. Edward III converted
Windsor from being primarily

a military fortress into more of a defended palace, and so it has remained since. Edward, who was born here in 1312, founded the Order of the Garter with Windsor as its home, and expanded the castle to about its present size. Charles II replaced some of Edward's buildings with more modern residential rooms, and more were replaced by George IV; these were restored after a fire in 1992. Its lavish private apartments are open to the public when the Queen is not using them.

www.rct.uk/visit/windsorcastle



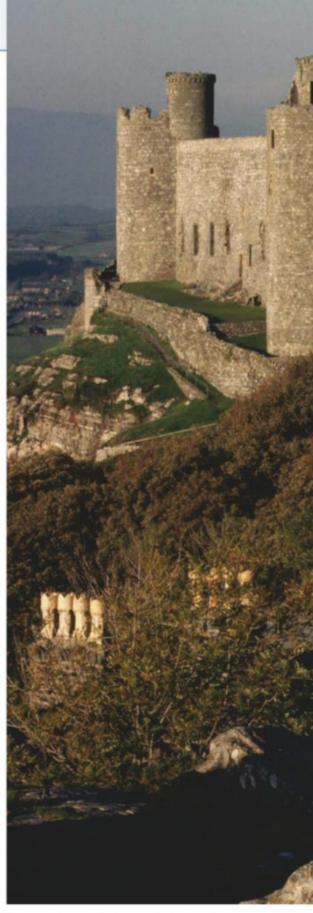
TUTBURY CASTLE

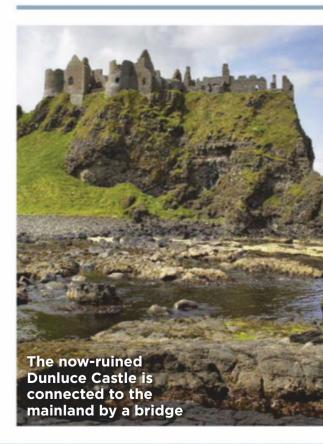
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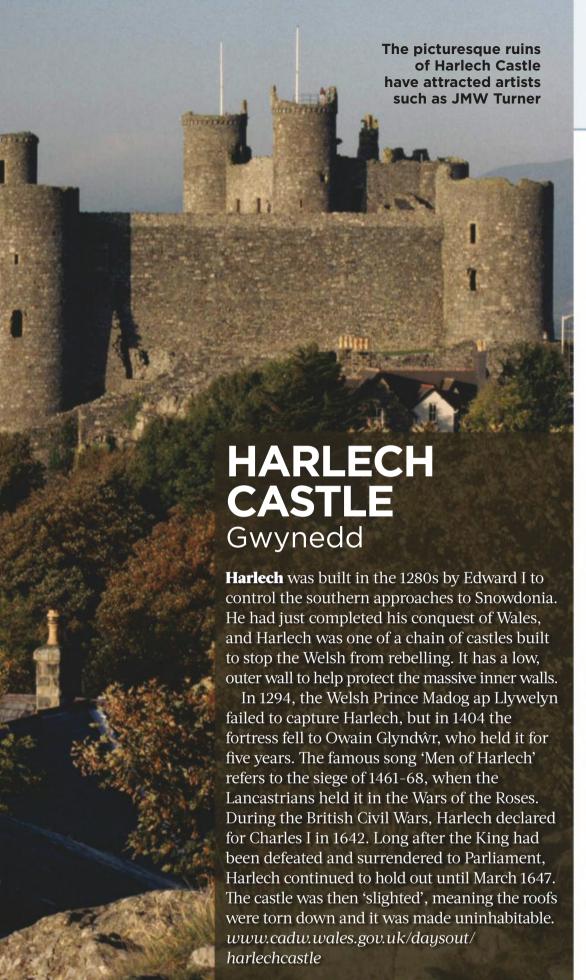
Tutbury Castle was built in 1068-9 as an earth and timber structure. It still has its original motte, a steep-sided mound of earth with a tower on top, which formed the basis of most early castles. In 1264, its owner, Earl Robert of Derby, rebelled against Henry III and the castle was destroyed, apart from the small 12th-century chapel. The castle was then rebuilt in the 14th century as part of the Duchy of Lancaster, the monarch's personal property.

In 1569, Mary, Queen of Scots was brought here as a prisoner of Elizabeth I. The castle is said to be haunted by a lady in a white dress, who some think is the ghost of the Scottish queen.

www.tutburycastle.com







DUNLUCE CASTLE County Antrim

Dunluce Castle was built by Richard Óg de Burgh, Earl of Ulster, in the 13th century on a clifftop overlooking the Irish Sea.

The site had been occupied since the Iron Age, but it is not clear if the earlier buildings had been fortified. Not much is known about the early history of the castle, but by 1513 it was in the hands of the McQuillan family. They built two massive round towers that remain dominant features today.

The castle then passed to the MacDonalds. In 1588, the *Girona*, a ship of the Spanish Armada was driven ashore on the rocks. The wreck was looted and the cannon installed in the castle. In the 17th century part of the cliff collapsed, taking defences with it.

The castle was abandoned in 1639 when its kitchen, with the kitchen staff within, allegedly dropped into the sea while the 2nd Earl of Antrim and his wife were waiting for dinner. The rubble infill of the main walls can be seen clearly in places. The seat of the Earls of Antrim moved to Glenarm Castle in 1745.

www.glenarmcastle.com/dunluce-castle

BAMBURGH CASTLE

Northumberland

There has been a fortress at **Bamburgh** since about AD 420. In AD 547, the English mercenary Ida seized the site, making it the centre of his Kingdom of Northumbria. William the Conqueror demolished this and built a castle that was attacked by William II in 1095 after its owner, Earl Robert of Northumbria, rebelled. The castle held out until starved into surrender.

The next siege came in 1464 during the Wars of the Roses.
The Yorkists pounded the castle with artillery until it eventually surrendered – the first English castle to fall to guns. The present castle is a patchwork of buildings and fortifications erected over the centuries. The Great Hall has a minstrels' gallery and an elaborate wooden roof.

www.bamburghcastle.com

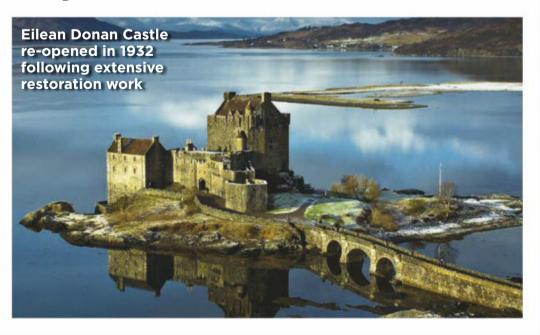


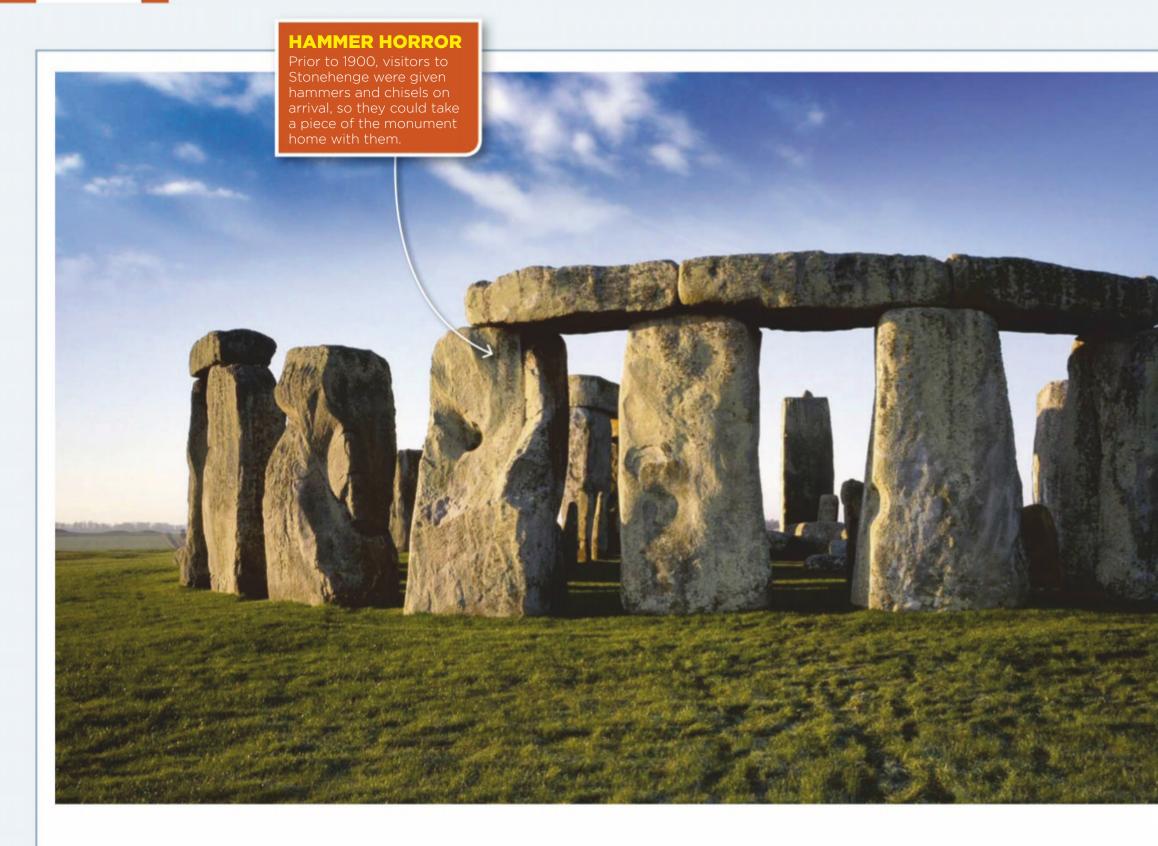
EILEAN DONAN

Loch Duich

a small island in Loch Duich. In about 1225, the castle was founded by Alexander II and, by 1266, it was in the hands of the Clan Mackenzie. In 1539, the MacDonalds launched a surprise attack but failed to capture it. The castle is built in Scottish Tower House style, with tall, square buildings. Local roads were so

bad that siege weapons could not be brought to attack the castle, so more sophisticated defences were not needed. In a 1719 Jacobite Rising, royalist troops blew up the defences with gunpowder. The ruins were converted into a comfortable home by John MacRae-Gilstrap, head of the Clan MacRae, in the 1920s. www.eileandonancastle.com





BRITAIN'S TREASURES... STONEHENGE Wiltshire

A few minutes' drive north of the A303 in Wiltshire sits one of the true wonders of the world, a Neolithic monument that has wowed visitors for thousands of years...



hen Cecil Chubb left the 21 September 1915 auction hosted by Knight, Frank and Rutley of Salisbury, he was £6,600 lighter of pocket. The catalogue described Lot 15, which he bought, as comprising "Stonehenge with about 30 acres, 2 rods, 37 perches of adjoining downland". In the century since Chubb's purchase of what may well be the most celebrated and mysterious Neolithic site in the world, some have suggested that he bought

it on a whim, while others have claimed that he bought it for his wife, going on to boast that it was only after she was dissatisfied with the gift that Chubb donated the prehistoric monument to the nation. It is believed that Chubb felt strongly that the stones should be bought by a local man, rather than some foreign investor.

Whatever the truth behind his impulsive purchase, the iconic structure has been in the public domain ever since, and, in the intervening decades, has undergone extensive restoration and been subject to a great many research projects to determine its purpose and origin.

HOW AND WHY

Around 3000 BC, simple antler tools were used to dig a circular ditch at the site, within which a ring of 56 wooden or stone posts was erected. Around 500 years later, stones were raised to form a monument. Two types of stones were used to build Stonehenge. The giant sarsen stones were

The purpose of this ancient monument may never be known

WHAT TO LOOK FOR...



NEW BUILDS The new visitor centre was or

The new visitor centre was opened 1.5 miles from the stones in 2013, offering fresh insight into the site.



CENTRE OF THE CIRCLE

Inside the exhibition centre, a 360° virtual tour shows how the stone circle looks from the inside.



NEOLITHIC HOUSES

Inside the reconstructed Neolithic houses, you can get a feel for life in the area 4,500 years ago.



EXHIBITS

Hundreds of prehistoric objects are displayed at the visitor centre, from arrow heads to pottery.



PULL YOUR WEIGHT

This reconstruction shows how the stones may have been transported over 150 miles.



SUNRISE

Sunrise - especially at summer solstice - is a magical time to enjoy the wonder of Stonehenge.

"The bluestones came from southwest Wales, some 150 miles away"

probably brought to the site from the Marlborough Downs, around 20 miles away – an extraordinary effort given the basic tools available to Neolithic people. But that is as nothing compared to the journey made by the smaller bluestones, which seem to have been brought from the Preseli Hills, some 150 miles away in southwest Wales.

Once at the site, the stones were shaped and carved, before being raised. Tongue-and-groove joints were used to link the top stones, which were then fixed on top of the standing stones using tenonand-mortise joints.

There are many theories as to what Stonehenge was for, including burial or cremation site, place of healing and even an astronomical computer, used to work out the dates of events such as eclipses. However, it seems most likely that it was built as a temple aligned with the movements of the Sun.

PLAN YOUR VISIT

Today, Stonehenge is managed by English Heritage, while the surrounding land is owned by the National Trust (members of either organisation get free entry to the site, as do holders of a local residents pass). A new visitor and exhibition centre was opened in 2013, 1.5 miles from the monument, outside of which are five reconstructed Neolithic houses that offer a glimpse into what life would have been like for the people who built Stonehenge some 4,500 years ago. Inside the visitor centre, you can enjoy a virtual tour of Stonehenge

throughout the year, experiencing the winter and summer solstices that have drawn Druids, Pagans, New Age travellers and other visitors to the stones for centuries. There's also an exhibition on how and why the monument was built, featuring hundreds of artefacts. You can either take a shuttle to the stones from the centre, or simply walk, taking in the ancient landscape as you step back in time.

It is no longer possible to actually walk freely among the stones, which have been roped off since the 1970s due to damage caused by erosion. However, certain exceptions are made, such as at summer and winter solstices – be sure to book well in advance for these. Although with around one million visitors a year, it's worth booking whenever you visit. •

WHY NOT VISIT...

Here are some other ancient sites nearby to make more of your visit...

OLD SARUM, SALISBURY

The remains of the Salisbury hill fort span Iron Age, Roman, Saxon and Norman civilisations. www.english heritage.org.uk/visit/places/old sarum

AVEBURY STONE CIRCLE

Get up close to the stones at Avebury's Neolithic henge.

ROMAN BATHS, BATH

The best-preserved ancient Roman temple and baths in northern Europe.

ww.romanbaths.co.uk

The Mount's Cornish name, Karrek Loos

ST MICHAEL'S MOUNT Cornwall

The murder crime scene of ancient Cornish giants, or simply a holiday destination straight out of every fairytale book, the Mount is Cornwall's jewel



Friday, with extended opening over Christmas and summer. Closed January 2017. National Trust members get in free.

FIND OUT MORE: Call 01736 710265 or visi he glistening tidal island of St Michael's Mount juts from the North Atlantic about as far southwest as you can travel in the UK without starting to doggy paddle to France.

The area's fully substantiated history stretches back at least to the 7th century, when a monastery was established that would later be gifted by Edward the Confessor to the tump's twin, Mont St Michel in Normandy– an arrangement that lasted until Henry V's French campaigns in the 15th century.

However, Neolithic artefacts have been found in the gardens, from a time when the mount would have been a hill surrounded by a forest. Some say it is the tin trading port of Ictis, referred to by Greek author Posidonius. And so perhaps we shouldn't scoff too loudly at the idea that this was the site of the greatest triumph of one of Britain's most valiant heroes.

END OF THE PIER

crucial part of its charm

YOU KNOW JACK

The name 'Jack' sends many vibrations down the annals of British folklore, but it's the figure of the giant killer of that name that has achieved the most lasting fame. According to his most feted fight, St Michael's Mount was the home of the giant Cormoran, who stood 18-feet tall and was fond of dining on the local human

populace – until Jack moseyed into town, lured the big bully into an immense pit and finished him off with an axe to the top of his head.

Myriad tall tales were attributed to this 'Jack', many of them tied in with Arthurian legend (which makes it unlikely that he was the 'Englishman' sniffed out after climbing that infamous beanstalk). But although most folklore has its roots in real history, there's no way of finding out what historical events were being wildly fictionalised in the earliest fireside stories. Was Jack a Cornish warrior who defeated an enemy tribe at St Michael's Mount, and lived to exaggerate the tale?

STEPPING STONES
At low tide, you can walk to
the Mount via a causeway
- heightened to deal with
the ever-rising tides

WHAT TO LOOK FOR...



MARAZION

Just opposite the island is the small coastal town of Marazion, which was not even mentioned in the *Domesday Book*, but is perfect for those who like a quiet life.



THE CASTLE

There are few picture-postcardperfect fairytale castles like this - perhaps why this one's starred in *Dracula*, *Never Say Never Again*, and even famous BBC idents.



MARAZION MARSH

Near the town of Marazion you'll find one of the country's finest RSPB bird reserves, famed for its reed bed, and festooned with wading species, including bitterns.



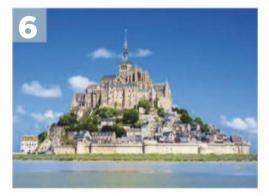
FOOTSTEPS

Bronze footsteps have been wrought into the ground to show where famous rulers have walked in the past - not including Perkin Warbeck in that group, of course.



THE GARDEN

With such beautiful buildings abounding, you wouldn't expect to get sidelined by plants, but the Gulf Stream means that the Mount's flora is breathtaking.



MONT SAINT-MICHEL

Okay, this isn't somewhere you can just wander off to on your visit, but the Norman tidal island is a perfect mirror of the Cornish mount, albeit slightly larger.

"The Mount needs no unfeasibly tall villain to be fascinating"

Luckily, although a sheen of mythology does add romance to a historical site, the Mount needs no unfeasibly tall villain to be a fascinating tourist destination.

CORNISH PASSION

The old kingdom of Kernow has often been the source of rebellion within Britain over the years, and the Yorkist pretender Perkin Warbeck took the Mount at the start of his 1497 invasion, which swiftly ended with his capture and derisory parading through the streets of London. Only a few decades later, in 1549, the Mount's governor Humphrey Arundell led a rebellion against Edward VI.

By the following century, the opposite attitude to the monarchy had taken root, and the Mount

was besieged for months by Cromwell's forces until they finally managed to bring it under Parliament's control.

But generally, the charm of the island is its unspoilt, fragile beauty. A place of pilgrimage since long before the arrival of the Saxons, a shrine to the Virgin Mary used to stand on the beach to greet visitors on their way up the hill to the monastic buildings where the castle currently sits.

The castle itself has been in the St Aubyn family since 1659, they having bought it 13 years after its British Civil Wars siege. In the 1950s, descendant the 3rd Baron St Levan donated the property to the National Trust, retaining a handy 999-year lease for the family to remain living there.

Visitors can wander the ancient corridors and appreciate the well-preserved antiquity of the closest thing to a fairytale castle we have in the UK. Visits from royalty including Queen Victoria and Edward VII are commemorated by bronze footprints where they stood, and there's also the last Scotch gauge railway in Britain – a small underground locomotive designed to bring luggage up to the castle from the shore.

In 1755, an earthquake in Lisbon raised water levels by two metres in ten minutes, claiming many lives, and few British sites could be so endangered by rising water levels. One day, the Mount may be submerged. Until then, it's a unique blend of mystical mythology and frozen history. •

WHY NOT VISIT...

Once you've reached Land's End, what is there to see?

LAND'S END

Fifteen miles across the peninsula, on the west coast, is the area long chosen to stand for the furthest southern tip of the country. John O'Groats is a quick 603-mile stroll to the north.

PENZANCE

Made famous by Gilbert and Sullivan, the pirate-plagued town makes the most of its maritime heritage and idyllic beaches.

www.penzance.co.uk

MARAZION

St Michael's Mount's nearest settlement claims to be Cornwall's oldest town, and while it has little of historical import, it does have two world-class beaches.

www.marazion.info

TOP 10...

LIVING HISTORY FESTIVALS

17-18 AUGUST

BOSWORTH MEDIEVAL FESTIVAL

Bosworth Battlefield, Leicestershire bit.ly/2MukpKL

Commemorating the most famous (and last) battle of the Wars of the Roses, Bosworth Medieval Festival is a feast of historical fun. Events include jousting, a medieval market, talks and the climatic re-enactment of the battle that deposed Richard III and put Henry Tudor on the throne. There are plenty of activities for children, as well as weaponry displays. Entry to the festival also gives entry to the award-winning Bosworth exhibition. Tickets are available online, from the Ticket Office or by calling 01455 290429, and are valid for both days of the festival.



LIVING HISTORY WEEKEND

Raglan Castle, Wales bit.ly/2LwFacF

An exciting weekend of immersive living history awaits at Raglan Castle with multiple periods represented - wander through the camps and be transported back into the past to witness how ordinary people lived their lives. All of this takes place in the grounds of the impressive late medieval castle. Admission charges apply: adults £7.30, children £4.40, family tickets £21.20. Entry is free for CADW members.





Tread carefully and you'll be able to glimpse all manner of tanks from World War II

28-30 JUNE

TANKFEST

Bovington Museum, Dorset, www.tankmuseum.org

The home of the tank is hosting the world's biggest display of historic armour at this action-packed event. Full battle scenarios will be played out, including a D-Day convoy. This is an outdoor event and dogs are not allowed except for assistance animals. Explosions and pyrotechnics will be used throughout. Tickets must be bought in advance.

20-23 JUNE

WIMPOLE HISTORY FESTIVAL

Wimpole Estate, Cambridgeshire, www. wimpolehistoryfestival.com

Wimpole will be transformed into a history lover's paradise. Take your pick from archery (below) and sword school, as well as talks by historians and experts including Lucy Worsley, Neil Oliver, Antony Beevor and Sally Wainwright.





29-30 JUNE

HISTORY ALIVE

Stonham Barns, Suffolk www.stonhambarns.co.uk

A fabulous weekend awaits in East Anglia as warriors from throughout history descend. Reenactments include battles from Ancient Greece, the Wars of the Roses and World War II. There will also be weaponry demonstrations, traditional music and crafts fairs. Camping is available on site.

3-4 AUGUST

HARBOROUGH AT WAR

Market Harborough Showground, Leicestershire www.harboroughatwar.co.uk

The Blitz spirit returns to Market Harborough as the town presents its World War II spectacular. The former RAF airfield will be taken back to the 1940s with battle reenactments, authentic wartime vehicles and a Big Band dance on Saturday night (tickets for the dance have an extra charge). Dogs are allowed and there is disabled access – though in some areas assistance may be needed. Camping is available.

24-26 AUGUST

MILITARY ODYSSEY

Kent Showground, Detling bit.ly/2HlztsD

Around 2,000 years of history will be brought to life at the world's largest multi-period reenactment show. Covering everything from the Romans and Vikings to the American Civil War and the two world wars, there's something for every history enthusiast to enjoy. There are plenty of food stalls and Military Odyssey is wheelchair accessible too. Advance adult three-day tickets start from £41.50 and camping is available.

24-30 JUNE

CHALKE VALLEY HISTORY FESTIVAL

Broad Chalke, Wiltshire www.cvhf.org.uk

Billed as the largest festival in the world that is entirely dedicated to history, Chalke Valley has something for everyone. With talks by some of history's biggest names - including Kate Williams and Dan Snow - the festival will have sword schools for children as well as battle demonstrations. There will also be a World War II trench where you can experience what it would have been like for British troops in Normandy. No dogs are allowed at this event.

10-11 AUGUST

ECHOES OF HISTORY

Purleigh Showground, Essex www.echoesofhistoryshow.com

From classic cars to massive tanks, come and get up close to some amazing vehicles. Experts will be on hand to demonstrate their weaponry and can answer your questions on everything from Ancient Roman battle tactics to the life of a modern-day soldier. Nearly 1,000 living history displays will inspire and entertain. Dogs on leads are allowed but beware that explosions will be used throughout the event. The site is mostly wheelchair accessible.



31 AUGUST - 8 SEPTEMBER

LARGS VIKING FESTIVAL

North Ayrshire, Scotland www.largsvikingfestival.org

The annual festival to commemorate the last mainland battle between Scotland and Norway in 1263 – ending the Viking's influence over Scotland – will immerse everyone in Viking fun. With re-enactments, owl displays, a Scottish food and craft village, lectures on Viking life and their impact on Scotland and a 13th-century Viking village, you can truly learn about these fearless Scandinavian warriors. Find out about the Viking way of life, what they believed in and why they left their homeland. Tickets can be bought on entry.

GO EXPLORE... EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

EXHIBITION

LAST SUPPER IN POMPEII

Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 25 July-12 January 2020 www.ashmolean.org/pompeii

The people of Pompeii had a love affair with food – they produced some of the finest wine and oil which they exported across the Roman Empire. This exhibition explores their relationship with eating and drinking – even revealing what Pompeii's inhabitants were chomping on the night that Mount Vesuvius erupted. Some of the items on display from Pompeii have never been out of Italy before. Booking in advance is recommended to secure your preferred entry time.



This elaborate

clay cockerel is

more than decor
- it's a *Rhyton*,
a vessel from
which drink
was served

FESTIVAL

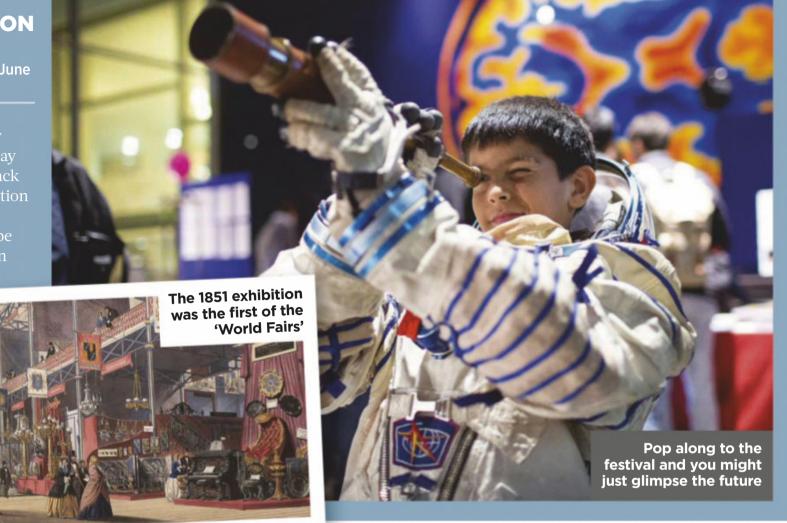
THE GREAT EXHIBITION ROAD FESTIVAL

South Kensington, London, 28-30 June bit.ly/2ulo5Ry

Championing curiosity, discovery and exploration, this free three-day collaborative festival will bring back the spirit of the 1851 Great Exhibition – the vision of Prince Albert.

Plenty of London museums will be getting involved in this innovation

spectacular. Go behind the scenes at Imperial College and learn how to become an astrophysicist or space miner. There's something for everyone to discover – from the journey of an astronaut to how music interacts with the brain.



EXHIBITION

THE FOSSIL SWAMP

National Museum Cardiff, until 17 May 2020 bit.ly/2E6Go8c

Around 300 million years ago, Wales and the rest of Britain was covered by a dense tropical swamp. Come and discover which ancient and unusual creatures (*below*) and plants lived in these wetlands. Displays include fossils from Brymbo, where an ancient fossilised forest was uncovered on the site of a former steelworks.





EXHIBITION

TITANIC STORIES

National Maritime Museum Cornwall, Falmouth, until 5 January 2020 www.nmmc.co.uk/titanic-stories

Using never-before-seen objects and personal testimonies from those who were there, dive deep into the story of the sinking of RMS *Titanic* – from the migrants searching for a better life abroad, to the myths and 'fake news' of the sinking itself. How many people could have fitted into a *Titanic* lifeboat (*above*)? This is your chance to find out.

EVENT

SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL AIRSHOW

National Museum of Flight, East Lothian, 27 July, bit.ly/30dBSOK

National Museums Scotland's annual airshow returns with a spectacular line-up – aerobatic team The Blades will perform their gravity-defying stunts, and an RAF Typhoon will give a powerful display, alongside Spitfires and Hurricanes. There's plenty to do on the ground too, with World War II hangars to explore as well as Scotland's Concorde.



FESTIVAL OF ARCHAEOLOGY

13-28 July 2019



GET INVOLVED

- Help us celebrate 75 years of the Council for British Archaeology
- A huge range of events & activities to inspire all ages
- More than 1,000 events across the UK

Council for British Archaeology

For more details visit archaeologyfestival.org.uk